



## ABC SUPPORTS HOUSE BILL 1479

### *Bill Summary*

House Bill 1479 amends the Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Act (Act 442 of 1961) to allow school districts that are in Financial Watch or Financial Recovery status the option of applying Prevailing Wage to construction projects. Currently, all school construction projects that exceed \$25,000 in value must utilize Prevailing Wage.

### *ABC Position*

**ABC supports House Bill 1479 for the reasons listed below. We ask that you vote in support of the legislation.**

- **Maximizes resources for education.** As more and more taxpayer resources are devoted to public education, some districts struggle to provide for the financial burden of a quality education. Because facility maintenance is a major financial consideration, House Bill 1479 would allow districts in financial watch and financial recovery status – those districts in the most dire of financial situations – the ability to allocate the most resources to in-classroom needs by potentially reducing construction and maintenance costs.
- **Provides local flexibility and potential savings.** HB 1479 would affect only ten districts currently and would not mandate that the districts comply with any new requirement. This legislation simply provides those the districts the choice to identify and realize potential savings and reallocate precious taxpayer resources to more pressing needs. This would allow facilities to continue to improve while potentially providing more resources directly to classrooms.