

## **Senate Democrats Announce Budget Agreement**

Last week, Senate Democrats announced they had reached an agreement on a \$3.5 trillion budget resolution framework that would expand federal programs related to education, health care, climate change, social services, immigration and other priorities of President Biden. Senate Democrats have yet to release specific details of what is included in the agreement. The budget resolution is the first step in the budget reconciliation process which would allow Democrats to bypass the Senate filibuster and pass the bill with a simple majority of the vote in both chambers of Congress.

It remains to be seen whether the budget agreement will have the support of all 50 Democrats in the Senate. Republicans in Congress have expressed strong opposition to a budget reconciliation bill that would circumvent the separate bipartisan infrastructure negotiations taking place between Democrats and Republicans. The budget resolution must pass both the House and Senate before the budget reconciliation process can take effect.

NDA is closely monitoring negotiations over the budget agreement and will keep members updated once further details are released. NDA continues to lobby Congress and meet with key members in the House and Senate in support of the demolition industry's infrastructure priorities.

## **DOL Announces Compliance Seminars on Prevailing Wage Requirements**

To help employers, workers and others stakeholders understand federal standards for prevailing wages on federally funded construction and service contracts, the Department of Labor (DOL) is offering virtual compliance seminars in August for contracting agencies, contractors, unions, workers and other stakeholders.

Presented by the DOL's Wage and Hour Division, the seminars will include video training on a variety of Davis-Bacon Act and Service Contract Act topics that participants can view on demand, followed by live question and answer sessions on several dates to accommodate participants' schedules. DOL will offer live sessions from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. ET on August 11, 12, 25 and 26. Attendance is free, but registration is required by Aug. 11, 2021. Interested employers can [register here](#).

## **DOL Issues Proposed Rule on Increasing the Minimum Wage for Federal Contractors**

Yesterday, the Department of Labor (DOL) announced a [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) to establish standards and procedures to implement and enforce [Executive Order 14026](#) signed by President Biden on April 27, 2021 to increase the minimum wage for federal contractors. The current minimum wage for federal contractors is \$10.95 per hour under an executive order signed by President Obama in 2014.

This rulemaking will:

- Increase the minimum wage for workers performing work on or in connection with covered federal contracts to \$15 per hour beginning Jan. 30, 2022.
- Continue to index the federal contract minimum wage in future years to an inflation measure.
- Eliminate the tipped minimum wage for federal contract workers by 2024.
- Ensure a \$15 minimum wage for workers with disabilities performing work on or in connection with covered contracts.

- Restore minimum wage protections to outfitters and guides operating on federal lands.

NDA is closely tracking the rulemaking and will keep members updated on the latest developments.