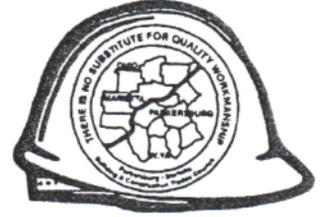


PARKERSBURG-MARIETTA
BUILDING and CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL, AFL-CIO

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August 30, 2017

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
United State Senate
713 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Brown;

I am writing to urge your support of Senate Bill 1117 (S. 1117), bi-partisan legislation which has been assigned to the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee. S. 1117 will enable both private industry and local and state government to cost efficiently fund much needed public works projects to help insure Ohio has the enhanced infrastructure necessary for needed economic development.

As you know many of Ohio's economic development and infrastructure projects use tax-exempt bonds to fund the construction costs. Money Market Funds (MMF's) have historically purchase those tax-exempt bonds but due to a rule change by the SEC, MMF's have been closing and selling and refinancing this debt has become more expensive for cities, counties, colleges and universities across Ohio. When the cost of those projects becomes more expensive, this potentially limits the size and scope of these projects. Members that I represent and members of all the building and construction trades could lose jobs if projects are reduced or eliminated altogether because of the increased costs.

Making these projects more expensive will only serve to delay much needed economic development and infrastructure improvements while providing fewer opportunities for skilled tradesmen and women across Ohio.

I am joining those supporting S. 1117 like ACT Ohio, the County Commissioners Association, the Municipal League, the Inter University Council, numerous elected officials and labor organizations across Ohio. If you would like to see the complete list of those supporting S. 1117 you can visit the coalition's website at www.protectinvestorchoice.com.

Sincerely,

Bill Hutchinson, Business Manager
Parkersburg-Marietta Building Trades Council