

RESOLUTION CONCERNING the Benefits of Union Labor in Biopharmaceutical Capital Construction Projects

WHEREAS, the skills required to build biopharmaceutical facilities are incredibly complex, requiring exacting standards to ensure the safety and efficacy of life-saving treatments and cures; and

WHEREAS, North America's Building Trades Unions (NABTU) spend nearly \$2 billion annually on training, apprenticeship, certification and continuing education programsⁱ that equip U.S. workers with the broad range of skills needed to fuel America's biopharmaceutical research and manufacturing industry; and

WHEREAS, the building trades unions are committed to rigorous health and safety standards through extensive workforce training, delivering OSHA 10- and 30-hour programs to over 70,000 workers each year, across over 1,900 training centers nation-wideⁱⁱ; and

WHEREAS, members of NABTU's registered apprenticeship program earn while they learn, graduate from the program debt-free and receive high-quality healthcare and retirement benefits using no taxpayer dollarsⁱⁱⁱ; and

WHEREAS, the biopharmaceutical industry directly employs more than 900,000 US workers nationwide^{iv}, and according to PILMA's Jobs Report, the industry accounted for at least \$774 million in union worker earnings across 14 states from 2015-2020^v; and

WHEREAS, according to a recent study, union labor projects have 14 percent better productivity than open shop projects overall and 4 percent lower costs than those that use open shop labor^{vi}; and

WHEREAS, construction projects that use union labor are 10 percent more predictable than non-union labor, meaning that they are less likely to be short on skilled labor, leading to fewer labor shortages which means a lower risk of cost growth and on-time project completion; and

WHEREAS, the biopharmaceutical member companies of PILMA recognize the value of skilled union labor in building safe and reliable facilities to ensure that life-saving medicines, are brought to market on-time and without unexpected costs and delay; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, PILMA will continue to educate and advocate for policies that support the continuation of the union apprenticeship model's ability to provide a ready pool of skilled labor critical to the production of current and next generation medicines and cures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the member companies and unions of PILMA pledge to further conversations and dialogue about opportunities for work in the industry and ways to work together to bring innovative new treatments and cures to patients worldwide.

ⁱ https://nabtu.org/workforce_dev/apprenticeship-training/

ⁱⁱ <https://nabtu.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/NABTU-Apprenticeship-Safety-Training.pdf>

ⁱⁱⁱ https://nabtu.org/workforce_dev/apprenticeship-training/

^{iv} <https://phrma.org/resource-center/topics/economic-impact/industry-economic-impact>

^v <https://unionjobs.pilma.org>

^{vi} <https://www.ipaglobal.com/news/article/investment-in-construction-union-labor-pays-off-for-us-capital-projects/>