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## Associated Builders and Contractors Meet with Pennsylvania Lawmakers to Promote Merit Shop in Construction Industry

Harrisburg, PA –March 25<sup>th</sup>, representatives from the Associated Builders and Contractors of Western PA (ABC of WPA) met with Pennsylvania lawmakers to advocate for policies that advance the merit shop philosophy within the construction industry. The meeting focused on fostering a competitive, fair, and open marketplace that prioritizes skill, quality, and value over restrictive labor practices.

ABC emphasized the importance of merit-based contracting, which allows all qualified contractors—regardless of union affiliation—to compete for projects based on their expertise and performance. Discussions with lawmakers centered on legislation and initiatives that support workforce development, reduce regulatory burdens, and ensure taxpayer dollars are spent efficiently on public construction projects.

“We’re here to champion a construction industry where merit drives success,” said Justin Erdner, President of ABC of WPA. “By working with Pennsylvania lawmakers, we aim to create opportunities for skilled workers and businesses while delivering high-quality infrastructure for our communities.”

The meeting marks a continued effort by ABC to collaborate with state leaders to strengthen Pennsylvania’s construction sector and promote economic growth through fair and open competition.

