

NAHB Resolution

Title: Apprenticeship Program Modernization  
Original Sponsor: Federal Government Affairs Committee

WHEREAS, the National Association of Home Builders recognizes that a growing shortage of skilled workers in the construction industry has become one of the most pressing problems facing builders today;

WHEREAS, apprenticeship programs that provide individuals the opportunity to learn a craft through on-the-job-training and classroom instruction are instrumental in recruiting and training the nearly 240,000 new workers that the Department of Labor estimates are needed each year to meet the nation's building needs;

WHEREAS, the Department of Labor's Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training (BAT) and State Apprenticeship Councils (SACs) are responsible for registering apprenticeship programs that meet federal standards and registering apprentices in approved programs;

WHEREAS, only businesses with government registered apprenticeship programs are permitted to pay apprenticeship wages on federally funded and federally assisted projects while all others must pay trainees the same wages that experienced and highly skilled workers receive;

WHEREAS, developing an apprenticeship program that meets federal standards can take up to six months at a cost of \$3,000 to \$10,000, yet there is currently no formal procedure for the approval or disapproval of an application and no recourse for a sponsor to appeal a decision; and

WHEREAS, costly and lengthy delays in the approval process are denying job training opportunities to individuals seeking to build a career in the construction industry and increase their earning potential,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Association of Home Builders support legislation that modernizes and expands the National Apprenticeship Act of 1937 to expedite the approval process for apprenticeship programs in order to increase job training opportunities for thousands of Americans.

Board of Directors Action:	Approved
Joint Executive/Resolutions Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Resolutions Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Construction Safety and Health Committee Action:	Recommends Approval
Federal Government Affairs Committee Action:	Recommends Approval