



February 25, 2019

The Honorable Bobby Scott  
Chairman, Education and Labor Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**Re: H.R. 865 - Rebuild America's Schools Act of 2019**

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the 850,000 members of the United Steelworkers (USW), I urge you to support H.R. 865 - Rebuild America's Schools Act of 2019 led by Representative Bobby Scott that is scheduled for mark-up this week.

The ability for our children to learn, succeed and prepare for the future requires the school infrastructure necessary to lift up all students no matter where they live. Unfortunately, decades of underinvestment at all levels of government has left over half of public schools needing significant repairs, renovations, and modernization to improve conditions.

The most recent reports on public school buildings indicate that three in ten public schools had portable buildings with half of those building in fair to poor condition<sup>1</sup>. By having a Federal investment of \$100 billion, the school infrastructure that will teach our country's future leaders will receive a significant and vital infusion of resources.

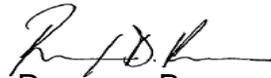
The union also supports section 304 of the legislation which would focus U.S. taxpayer dollars into domestic procurement. These provisions are similar to long established federal programs within the Department of Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency and compliant with all existing U.S. trade agreements. Our union members look forward to providing the materials that will literally keep a roof over the head of our next generation should this bill become law.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nea.org/assets/docs/Chartbook-on-the-Condition-of-Public-School-Facilities-2012-13.pdf>

USW urges your support of the legislation as drafted. K-12 public schools are the second largest national infrastructure sector, yet they unfortunately have no dedicated federal funding. The union looks forward to seeing H.R. 865 begin a much-needed federal role.

Sincerely,



Roxanne Brown  
Legislative Director

RDB/cdk

---

United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union

Legislative Department, 1155 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20036 • 202-778-4384 • 202-293-5308  
(Fax)

[www.usw.org](http://www.usw.org)