



TESTIMONY OF

Mark Roach
Board Member, Associated Builders and Contractors of Texas

before the

COMMITTEE ON STATE AFFAIRS
TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 15, 2023

Good evening, Chairman Hunter, Vice-Chairwoman Hernandez and members of this Committee.

My name is Mark Roach and as a sitting Board Member of Associated Builders & Contractors of Texas, I am here on it's behalf speak in favor of **HB 2127**.

Our 1600 member companies are predominantly in the industrial and commercial sectors throughout our entire State. Our members represent all trades and specialties that make up the Texas construction industry. In addition, ABC of Texas has been a proud 10 year member of the Alliance for Securing and Strengthening the Economy in Texas, ASSET for short, which is a 30+ member coalition that also supports HB 2127.

It is our firm belief that HB2127 will finally address the hodgepodge of regulations that have been created and enacted by municipalities across Texas. We believe that HB2127 will ensure that every business and its employees will be able to work more successfully when regulations are made consistent throughout our State.

Our members work across Texas from big cities to small towns. An example is one of our members who works primarily in the public education sector. It is common for them to have over 30 active jobsites in seventeen (17) different jurisdictions on any given day. The practice of each of these jurisdictions adopting their own set of rules for everything from employment procedures to the kinds of tools they may use on a job-site is making job performance cost prohibitive. Ironically, this non- essential burden is borne ultimately by the taxpayer's of the School Districts.... the very taxpayer's for whom the State of Texas is trying to provide relief.

In addition, this continued practice by local jurisdictions significantly limits the companies which can take on cost of carry for projects because of having to unnecessarily hire additional

consultants and specialists for each and every job to navigate every jurisdiction's differing regulations. Members of the Committee, this reality neither promotes competition nor does it promote a business friendly environment. It stifles it.

We support **HB 2127** because we believe it not only will address concerns with existing regulations, but also future regulations that are currently being discussed by local governments. Like the City of Dallas discussing banning small two-cycle engines for city departments, contractors, and other businesses. Our member's craftsmen rely heavily on this type of equipment to do their jobs. We believe that **HB 2127** will assert the State's authority on policy issues such as this.

In closing, we feel that in order for us to preserve the Texas business model we have all come to love...and the resulting flourishing economy from which we all benefit, it is critically essential that the State get involved and reign in this patchwork of regulations that have been developed by, for lack of a better description, some rogue municipalities.

ABC of Texas and our hundreds of members respectfully urge this committee to support **HB 2127** and bring consistency, once and for all, to our great State.

Thank you.