

BIDEN POLICY PRIORITIES

“We feel that Joe Biden is the best choice for the IBEW because he has taken the time to listen to what our members have to say about the biggest challenges facing our country. And that makes me confident that IBEW members will always have a seat at the table in a Biden administration.”

--IBEW International President Lonnie R. Stephenson

LABOR STANDARDS

Vice President Biden has stood with unions and workers his entire career, both in the Senate and White House.

- Strongly supports the **Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act**, which will protect workers’ right to organize and bargain collectively, and increase penalties on companies that interfere with that basic right
- Will require **prevailing wages on all federal-supported infrastructure and transportation projects**
- Supports **passage of the Butch Lewis Act**, which will help troubled multiemployer pension plans
- Will ban **“right-to-work”** (state laws prohibiting unions from collecting dues)
- Create a **cabinet-level working group** that will focus solely on promoting union organizing and collective bargaining in the private and public sectors
- Give independent contractors the right to organize and bargain collectively

Holding employers accountable

- Will enact legislation to prevent worker misclassification and create a federal ABC test to accurately distinguish employees from independent contractors
- Will support legislation to ensure workers can exercise their right to strike without fear of reprisal by banning permanent strike replacement and remove the ban on secondary boycotts
- Will hold corporate executives personally accountable when their companies violate labor law
- Prohibit federal contracts for employers who violate labor law and require federal contracts to only go to employers who sign neutrality agreements
- Eliminate forced arbitration and the use of temporary staffing agencies

Workplace safety

- Will dramatically increase resources to uphold workplace safety and health standards and increase the number of labor investigators

REBUILDING AMERICA’S INFRASTRUCTURE

Vice President Biden has committed that all infrastructure projects will contain labor protections.

- Investments that will carry Davis-Bacon wage guidelines
- Employees from high-quality apprenticeship programs
- Source materials that originated in the United States

Rail

Vice President Biden has offered a plan to reinvigorate and invest in America's railroad network.

- Prioritizes the construction of high-speed, nationwide freight and passenger rail system
- Seeks to connect the Northeast Corridor with the fast-growing South for efficiency of travel in both freight and passenger rail services
- Further electrifying the rail system
- Installing and adding light rail lines in cities to ease congestion
- Focuses rail safety on all of his policy initiatives

Waterways and Shipping

Ports, harbors and waterways are sectors of the economy that have been adversely affected by underinvestment in the nation's infrastructure.

Vice President Biden pledges to invest in:

- Increased funding for United States Army Corps of Engineers programs
- Working with labor and local leaders to ensure that America's ports remain globally competitive
- Make water infrastructure a top priority

FUNDING

Highway Trust Fund: Biden has guaranteed his commitment to building revenue sources and stabilizing the failing balance of the Highway Trust Fund

Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund: Biden has set ambitious goals on utilizing the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund for its intended use of maintaining our country's ports and harbors

ENERGY AND CLIMATE

Vice President Biden has developed a comprehensive energy plan through close consultation with the power professionals of the IBEW. He supports an all-of-the-above energy strategy, including support for nuclear and carbon-capture technology.

Will invest \$400 billion in energy research and innovation to build the industries of the future:

- Carbon capture
- Grid-scale storage
- Advanced nuclear

Solutions for a changing world

- Proposes to create an energy efficiency standard for building and appliances that will require deep retrofits and a shift to appliance electrification
- Invest in coal and power plant communities impacted by climate transformation
- Deploy 500,000 public electric vehicle charging stations by 2030

Leveling the international playing field

- Imposing a carbon tariff (“adjustment fee”) or quotas on carbon intensive imports from countries that are failing to meet environmental standards – ensuring American workers are not at a disadvantage
- Moving aggressively to require foreign countries to stop gaming the system and reduce their admissions

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

- Will strengthen registered apprenticeships and partner with unions on workplace training
- Opposes the Trump administration’s Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Program (IRAPs)

RURAL AMERICA

- Will invest \$20 billion in rural broadband and expanding broadband access in rural areas, completed with high-wage, family sustaining jobs
- Plan for rebuilding infrastructure in rural communities

MANUFACTURING

- Manufacturing Extension Partnership
 - Quadruple the current funding to ensure that small manufacturers are able to compete with the global economy
 - Employers, state and local governments and universities must be joined by labor to develop low-carbon emissions technologies in the industrial sector
- Vice President Biden’s plan outlines the need for a \$6 billion Manufacturing Communities Tax Credit to invest in communities that have been devastated by mass manufacturing layoffs and loss of government institutions