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December 18, 2019

Joshua Johnson, Director Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards 201 E. Washington Ave Madison WI 53707

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This is a letter of support of WRTP/BIG STEP's application to be approved as a provider for the Department of Labor Expansion grant opportunity. WRTP/BIG STEP is a State of Wisconsin certified pre-apprenticeship program provider. As a representative of the Milwaukee Building & Construction Trades Council (MBCTC). I can acknowledge that WRTP/BIG STEP has provided and has designed a program that provides quality instruction and related work experience for the Construction Trades and for many of our member unions. BIG STEP is the sole source and/or first source provider of quality apprenticeship candidates. I also see BIG STEP as instrumental in helping our industry in its credentialing process and in meeting new demands and technologies of our various trades. Whether it be adoption of MC3 certification as well as other local and national demands that keep our industry competitive.

The Milwaukee Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO (MBCTC) is dedicated to its core values and practices. Affiliated unions and their related JAC/JATC programs include:

- Boilermakers Union, Local 107
- Bride, Structural, Ornamental & Reinforcing Ironworkers Union, Local 8
- Electrical Workers Union, Local 494
- Glaziers Union, Local 1204
- Heat and Frost Insulators Union, Local 19
- Operating Engineers Union, Local 139
- Painters & Allied Trades, District Council 7
- Roofers Union, Local 65
- Sprinkler Fitters Union, Local 183
- Teamsters Union, Local 200

- Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Union, Local 8
- North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters
- Elevator Constructors Union, Local 15
- Laborers International Union, Local 113
- Operative Plasterers & Cement Masons International Union, Local 599
- Plumbers Union, Local 75
- Sheet Metal Workers Union, Local 18
- Steamfitters Union, Local 601
- Tile and Terrazzo Layers Protective Union, Local 5

As a partner, WRTP/BIG STEP understand and shares what it takes to succeed in each of the construction trades found locally. They help to assure that the successful completion of the program will prepare participants to meet and/or exceed the minimum respective qualifications for entrance to the trades selected by the participant.

From my work with WRTP/BIG STEP, I value their willingness to work with the industry and assure the construction industry's workforce needs are met. The work that WRTP/BIG STEP does in partnership with the construction skilled trades and their unions helps build a diverse and qualified pipeline to meet the ongoing and upcoming workforce needs within the construction industry.

Sincerely, Bukuwucy Januel S Dan Bukiewicz

President, Milwaukee Building & Construction Trades Council