



**NORTHERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL COUNCIL
OF CARPENTERS TRAINING FUND
MADISON APPRENTICESHIP OFFICE**

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Date: December 20, 2006

To: Joint Legislative Council
Special Committee on
Affirmative Action

From James Greer / Coordinator
Madison Area Joint Apprenticeship Committee

Distinguished Members of the Committee:

This letter is sent in support of the Affirmative Action Programs set forth and administered by the City of Madison Department of Civil Rights. The importance of these programs to the Madison community cannot be understated. All members of the community, including working families, students, the trades, professional and community-based organizations, benefit from these equity initiatives.

As you may know, the workforce among the skilled trades is diminishing without a solid base of apprentices to take their places. Affirmative action is critical to ensure that high-quality labor is available to build the future of Wisconsin.

In addition, policies such as prevailing wage ensure that our workforce earns good, family-supporting salaries. These foundational policies support a sustainable Wisconsin economy.

It is our hope that this Committee will give prudent thought to these matters and act in the interest of the diverse community that contributes greatly to the positive growth we enjoy in the State of Wisconsin.

Thank You,

James Greer / Coordinator
NWRCC Training Fund