NDA Secures Key Wins in FY 2024 Appropriations Package

Last Friday, Congress passed six of twelve appropriations bills to partially fund the federal government through the remainder of Fiscal Year (FY) 2024. The package funds programs in the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Energy, Interior, Justice, Transportation and Veterans Affairs. NDA has been lobbying Congress on the demolition industry's priorities for several months and was able to secure several key victories for the demolition industry in the legislation. These include full funding of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, EPA Brownfields and Superfund programs, and community development block grant funding.

- Infrastructure: Fully funds and implements the infrastructure investments in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law).
- EPA Brownfields: Fully funds Brownfields commitments in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.
- **EPA Superfund:** Includes \$3 billion for the Superfund program, an increase of \$1.79 billion.
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG): Incudes \$3.3 billion for Community Development Block Grants.

Congress will need to pass the remaining six appropriations bills by March 28, 2024 to avert a government shutdown.

Federal Court Strikes Down New Joint Employer Rule

Last Friday, the District Court for the Eastern District of Texas invalidated the National Labor Relations Board's (NLRB) final rule on joint employer status that was set to go into effect this week. The judge in the case ruled that the new joint employer rule was too broad and violated the National Labor Relations Act. NDA opposes the NLRB's final rule and has been <u>raising concerns</u> in Washington, D.C. regarding the impact the new joint employer standard would have on demolition contractors and small businesses. The NLRB will likely appeal the ruling to the U.S. Circuit Court for the 5th Circuit.

NDA Urges Congress to Overturn DOL Independent Contractor Rule

NDA recently joined a coalition of organizations to <u>urge Congress</u> to pass H.J. Res 116 and S.J. Res 63. This legislation would overturn the Department of Labor's (DOL) final independent contractor rule which makes it more difficult for individuals to classify as independent contractors. This week, lead sponsor Senator Bill Cassidy (R-LA) <u>issued a press release highlighting NDA and other organizations</u> that are supporting the legislation and spearheading advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill. NDA will continue to work with its coalition partners to garner support for the legislation in Congress.