



**OREGON IRON WORKS, INC.**  
WHERE SOLUTIONS ARE BUILT



## Vote “Yes” on HB 2402 – The Buy American Bill

### Background

The federal “Buy American Act” was signed into law in 1933. The law was passed in an effort to protect the American labor market and economists have estimated that the policy has had a significant multiplier effect on our economy. Buy American has been so successful that it was expanded multiple times with tremendous bi-partisan support. Oregon has “Buy American” preferences for the procurement of all non-construction goods and services, and agencies follow "Buy American for all construction projects that are funded in part with federal dollars. However, no "Buy American" provisions apply to construction projects funded by state and local governments, without federal dollars. HB 2402 would extend the "Buy American" procedures agencies currently follow on federal projects, and apply that identical process to projects funded entirely with state and local dollars.

### Summary

HB 2402 would require that American made materials, such as iron and steel, be used in the construction, renovation, and maintenance of all major public works projects. This policy continues a process that agencies already implement on projects funded in part by the federal government--a process that works.

### Opt-outs from Buying American

HB 2402 has two opt-out provisions that mirror the federal opt-outs, designed to keep Buy American requirements from delaying projects or becoming burdensome on tax payers. The contracting agencies can opt-out if:

- Materials that are not readily available in the quality or quantity necessary for the project
- The cost of buying American made products raised the total project cost by more than 25%

### Benefits

- Helps ensure American taxpayer dollars are spent employing Americans
- Reinvests American taxpayer dollars in America's economy
- Helps support American industry and local manufacturing

**Vote “Yes” on HB 2402**  
**For American Businesses and Workers!**