

JOINT LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

#UNIONSTRONG2021

TALKING POINTS – SB 15 (Portantino) – SUPPORT

Prevailing Wage Coverage and Skilled and Trained Requirements for Retail Shopping Center Conversions

- This bill will address a growing concern among local government policymakers – the rapid decline of shopping centers and the blight those buildings create when abandoned.
- It also addresses the low road business model of developers: they believe it is fine to pay unskilled construction workers the minimum wage under the table to build housing.
- By creating a state incentive grant program to repurpose idle or underutilized big-box retailer or commercial shopping center properties into lower and moderate-income housing, SB 15 will be creating thousands of new construction worker jobs while helping fix the housing crisis.
- The jobs created by SB 15 will ensure that construction workers will earn the prevailing wage and be graduates of state approved apprenticeship programs. This helps developers, contractors, and construction workers.
- SB 15 pairs a solution to a looming policy problem, vacant shopping centers, with a policy that protects construction workers from the underground economy.

SM: OPEIU 29 AFL CIO

