



# POLITICAL ACTION

## California Reps Take It to the House



*Gabriel Perea, Doug Ziegler, and Brent Beasley make a new friend on their journey around the Nation's Capitol grounds.*

The House of Representatives, that is. Riding the wave of excitement and energy brought on by the 100th Anniversary Celebration and Legislative Conference of the Building and Construction Trades Department of the AFL-CIO, Roofers representatives from California spent an afternoon meeting with senators and members of Congress.

The action started with a luncheon for California Building Trades delegates at the Washington Court Hotel on Capitol Hill, featuring guest speaker Senator Barbara Boxer (D - CA).



*Local 95 Business Manager Daniel Smith, Local 40 Business Representative Steve Tucker, International Representative Gabby Perea, Senator Barbara Boxer, International Vice President Doug Ziegler, and Local 220 Business Manager Brent Beasley following the California Building Trades luncheon on Capitol Hill.*



*International Vice President Doug Ziegler, right, concludes a successful meeting with Congresswoman Barbara Lee (D-CA).*

Following the lunch, the Roofers representatives split up according to district and joined together with other building trades delegates from their respective districts to visit members of Congress. On the agenda were some key items that are crucial to the construction industry, the union movement, and the environment, including:

**David-Bacon Act – Prevailing Wage Provisions:** Support inclusion of Davis-Bacon prevailing wage provisions in all federal legislation that provides financial assistance through innovative techniques such as state revolving funds, state infrastructure banks, and federal tax credits.

**Employee Misclassification:** Support legislation that closes the current IRS “loophole” that allows employees to misclassify workers as “independent contractors” with impunity.

**Climate Change:** Craft solutions to the problem of climate change that embrace all our energy options, including nuclear power, wind, solar and other renewable energy, and advanced coal-fired power plants equipped with carbon capture and storage technology.

**“Second Responder” Legislation:** Support legislation to establish a comprehensive national system for skilled construction workers to assist first responders in response to natural and man-made disasters and terrorist attacks.



*Representatives from the Painters Union, Roofers Union, and other trades are granted a meeting with Congressman Pete Stark (D-CA) in his office.*

In addition to these issues, Local Union representatives lobbied for projects specific to their jurisdiction. Trekking back and forth between the Cannon and Rayburn House Office Buildings, visits were made to the offices of U.S. Representatives Pete Stark, Barbara Lee, Jerry McNerney, and others. The Congress members were extremely receptive to the different topics and offered support in many cases. At the end of the day, everyone felt like they had truly experienced a taste of American democracy.



*At the end of a long day, Brother Ziegler finally gets his time with Representative Jerry McNerney (D-CA).*