



National Employment  
Law Project

A National Voice for Working Families

**For Immediate Release: June 29, 2009**

**Media Inquiries: Tim Bradley, BerlinRosen Public Affairs, 646-452-5637**

**NELP APPLAUDS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES' PASSAGE OF  
AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND SECURITY ACT**

*Historic bill guarantees access to quality green jobs and apprenticeship training  
for workers in low-income communities*

**New York** – The National Employment Law Project (NELP) applauds Friday's passage of the American Clean Energy and Security Act (ACES) by the U.S. House of Representatives. If approved by the Senate, this historic reform will shift the nation towards a sustainable, clean energy economy while creating hundreds of thousands of middle class jobs for American communities.

NELP joined forces with a coalition of community, civil rights, environmental and labor groups led by Green for All to establish a "Green Construction Careers" demonstration project as part of ACES. Under the demonstration project, the Secretaries of Labor and Energy would establish goals to ensure that a minimum percentage of new green construction jobs created under ACES go to residents of the low-income communities that need them most. At the same time, it would guarantee that employers provide these workers with quality training through the apprenticeship system to prepare them to succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century green economy.

"The American Clean Energy and Security Act provides vital tools for ensuring that the new green economy delivers middle class jobs and quality training for the low-income communities that need them the most. We look forward to its passage in the Senate," said Chris Owens, NELP's Executive Director. For more information on the Green Construction Careers demonstration project, please contact Tsedeye Gebreselassie at [tsedeye@nelp.org](mailto:tsedeye@nelp.org) or Judy Conti at [jconti@nelp.org](mailto:jconti@nelp.org).

For forty years, the National Employment Law Project (NELP) has worked to restore the promise of economic opportunity for working families across America. In partnership with grassroots and national allies, NELP promotes policies to create good jobs, enforce hard-won workplace rights, and help unemployed workers regain their economic footing.

To learn more about NELP, please visit [www.nelp.org](http://www.nelp.org).

###