

September 24, 2026

RE: The Constructing the Path to Suicide Prevention Act (S. 5327)

Dear Senator Cortez Masto,

On behalf of the National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA), I write to thank you for introducing the Constructing the Path to Suicide Prevention Act (S. 5327). This legislation recognizes that suicide prevention must be part of construction safety, and it would help ensure that workers, contractors, and industry partners have the resources needed to identify risks, reduce stigma, and connect people with support before a crisis occurs.

NUCA represents construction contractors, manufacturers, and distributors responsible for building and maintaining the Nation's critical underground infrastructure, including water, wastewater, natural gas, broadband, electric, and transportation systems. Our members are committed to delivering these essential projects safely, efficiently, and to the highest standards of quality.

Suicide prevention is an urgent issue for the construction industry. According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the construction industry has one of the highest suicide rates of any occupation. The suicide rate for construction workers is approximately four to five times higher than the national average, and more construction workers die by suicide than from all other jobsite injuries and accidents combined.

Construction is a male-dominated field, and the self-sufficient "tough it out" culture of the industry can make it difficult for workers to ask for help when they need it. Men in their early 20s and 50s continue to account for the majority of suicide deaths in America. Many construction professionals are also veterans, bringing valuable leadership experience to the industry, but often face an increased risk of suicide. Frequent travel between job sites, irregular hours, and time away from family can lead to feelings of isolation, disrupted sleep, and physical and mental exhaustion. Together, these factors put construction workers at a significantly increased risk for suicidal thoughts and actions. Suicide deeply impacts workers, families, and communities, and it is long past time for Congress to take action to prevent these tragic deaths.

NUCA is grateful to Senator Cortez Masto for taking on the issue of suicide prevention within the construction industry. We would be proud to support this effort in any way we can, including by providing expert witnesses for testimony, to sharing firsthand insights to help inform amendments or revised bill text. NUCA is committed to helping prevent construction industry suicides and stands to support Senator Cortez Masto's work on this issue.

Thank you for your continued leadership and commitment to the mental health of our nation's construction industry professionals.

Sincerely yours,



Zachary Perconti
Chief Advocacy Officer
National Utility Contractors Association