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American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations

AFL-CIO

815 Sixteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 637-5000
http://www.aflcio.org

13 September, 2000

Minyon / Stephanie / Laura
You asked me whether we can make this happen — what are the chances?
Karen

The Honorable William J. Clinton
The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Thanks in large part to your strong support, working families have not been deprived of their voice in the issue debates in our country by phony "pay check protection" initiatives. I am pleased to be able to tell you that only one major attempt is still underway, a ballot initiative in the state of Oregon. This one threat, however, is a very serious one. It would, if enacted, effectively silence the voice of working families in Oregon.

I very much appreciate your help in the success of our efforts over the past two years and write to ask for your help again this Fall. Specifically, I would appreciate your participating in a fund raising event here in Washington, DC in early October. CWA President, Morty Bahr, has offered to host this event at his home on a date convenient for you. We are flexible both in terms of location and day of the event, should your schedule enable you to do so in this time frame.

Thank you for considering this request. Best wishes.

Sincerely,

John J. Sweeney

John J. Sweeney
President

JJS:nsc

American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations

AFL-CIO

815 Sixteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 637-5000
http://www.aflcio.org

13 September, 2000

Maggie/Stephanie/Laura
You asked me whether we can make this happen — what are our chances? Karen

tentatively scheduled for Oct. 6 ~~Oct~~ Oct
Carolyn -> pls let Karen know.

The Honorable William J. Clinton
The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Thanks in large part to your strong support, working families have not been deprived of their voice in the issue debates in our country by phony "pay check protection" initiatives. I am pleased to be able to tell you that only one major attempt is still underway, a ballot initiative in the state of Oregon. This one threat, however, is a very serious one. It would, if enacted, effectively silence the voice of working families in Oregon.

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Sincerely,

John J. Sweeney

John J. Sweeney
President

JJS:nsc

AFL-CIO

American Federation of Labor
Congress of Industrial Organizations
AFL-CIO

FAX Transmission

■ **DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATION** ■

TO: Karen Tramontano

FAX #:

DATE:

FROM: Gerry Shea

PHONE: 202/637-5057 **FAX #:** 202/508-6963

Number of pages to follow: 3

COMMENTS:

(Please call (202) 637-5088, if you have received this transmission in error)

815 Sixteenth Street, N.W. ■ Room 309 ■ Washington, D.C. 20006

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 19, 2000

BLACKLISTING RULE THREATENS UNIVERSITY RESEARCH
Vote for Davis-Moran Amendment to Treasury-Postal Appropriations Bill

Dear Colleague:

On June 30, 2000, the Administration proposed regulations that would dramatically alter the process by which federal contracts are awarded. The regulations would bar colleges and universities and other prospective contractors from receiving federal contracts if, based on "credible evidence", they appear to have a poor record of "integrity and business ethics." In making the determination, contracting officers are ordered to give great weight to determinations made by administrative law judges (ALJs), and charges brought by any federal agency, board, or commission that the university has violated any one of numerous laws.

Our research universities represent a major segment of federal contractors and receive billions of dollars in contracts each year for such national priorities as researching and developing treatments for cancer and aids. Similarly, the contribution of our research institutions to our national defense, the space program, the environment, and energy policy cannot be understated. Denying our colleges and universities federal contracts because there is "credible evidence" of what could be a minor violation of federal regulations is clearly not in our national interest. Existing acquisition regulations protect the taxpayer from unscrupulous contractors without threatening our research institutions or the important role they play.

All of these concerns were raised when the Administration first proposed this rule in 1999, and again when the House Small Business Committee considered the rule last year. Unfortunately, the Administration chose to re-issue the rule without addressing these matters. Consequently, when the House considers the Treasury-Postal Appropriations Bill, we plan to offer an amendment that would block funds for implementation until the results of a GAO audit are available documenting the extent to which there is a problem, if there is a problem. **The Davis-Moran amendment has broad bipartisan support, and is supported by our research colleges and universities, the business community at large, and especially small businesses and the technology sector.** It will also be scored as a key vote by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, and the Information Technology Industry Council.

For more information, please contact Melissa Wojciak in Rep. Davis' office at 5-6751 or Melissa Koloszar in Rep. Moran's office at 5-4376.

Tom Davis

Tom Davis

Jim Moran

Jim Moran

Doug Ose

Doug Ose

Cal Dooley

Cal Dooley

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 19, 2000

DON'T LET AMBIGUITY KILL SMALL BUSINESSES

VOTE FOR THE DAVIS-MORAN AMENDMENT TO TREASURY-POSTAL APPROPS!!!

Dear Colleague

The Davis-Moran Amendment will ensure that the Administration does not implement proposed regulations that will jeopardize the ability of many small businesses to continue to do business with the Federal Government. The regulations would significantly change the way the Federal Government awards contracts, infusing ambiguity in the procurement process in order to fix an alleged problem, one for which the Administration has been able to offer little evidence in support.

As a result, small businesses will be unable and unwilling to survive the costs associated with a subjective scrutiny that will result in a delayed federal procurement process, increased litigation, and the proliferation of bid protests. In turn, the Federal Government will undermine the benefits it has started to realize through the innovation and cost-efficient technologies and products that small business contractors produce.

We do not in any way question the fact that the Federal Government has a responsibility to ensure that it does not do business with bad actors. **The Davis-Moran amendment simply prevents the Administration from implementing these regulations until the General Accounting Office has completed their assessment of the extent to which Federal agencies have contracted with companies that have violated Federal laws.**

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, and the Information Technology Industry Council will be scoring this amendment as a key vote. If you would like more information or have any questions, please contact Melissa Wojciak in Rep Davis' office at 5-6751 or Melissa Koloszar in Rep. Moran's office at 5-4376.

Tom Davis

Jim Moran

Doug Ose

Cal Dooley

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 19, 2000

BLACKLISTING RULE THREATENS TECHNOLOGY SECTOR
Vote for Davis-Moran Amendment to Treasury-Postal Appropriations Bill

Dear Colleague

On June 30, 2000, the Administration proposed regulations that would dramatically alter the process by which federal contracts are awarded The regulations would bar businesses, universities, and other prospective contractors from receiving federal contracts if, based on "credible evidence", they appear to have a poor record of "integrity and business ethics." In making the determination, contracting officers are ordered to give great weight to determinations made by administrative law judges (ALJs), and charges brought by any federal agency, board, or commission that the prospective contractor has violated any one of numerous laws.

The proposed changes will have a severe impact on the technology industry. Perhaps more than any other segment of our economy, the technology sector is extremely sensitive to market forces and has experimented with novel business models to enhance efficiency. Yet, under the new rules, a single mistake could be enough to effectively blacklist a firm from the federal procurement process. For example, if the IRS determines that a firm mistakenly classified an employee as an independent contractor, a contracting officer could block federal contracts to that firm, even if the firm agreed and rectified the situation The new rules clearly provide a disincentive to experiment with new business models that could create cases of first impression. Similarly, federal contractors will be hesitant to acquire or merge with dynamic new firms. Such a policy, in the long run, will create a stagnant pool of unimaginative contractors.

All of these concerns were raised when the Administration first proposed this rule in 1999, and again when the House Small Business Committee considered the rule last year Unfortunately, the Administration chose to re-issue the rule without addressing these matters. Consequently, when the House considers the Treasury-Postal Appropriations Bill, we plan to offer an amendment that would block funds for implementation until the results of a GAO audit are available documenting the extent to which there is a problem, if there is a problem. **The Davis-Moran amendment has broad bipartisan support, and is supported by our research colleges and universities, the business community at large, and especially small businesses and the technology sector.** It will also be scored as a key vote by the U S Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, and the Information Technology Industry Council

For more information, please contact Melissa Wojciak in Rep Davis's office at 5-6751 or Melissa Koloszar in Rep. Moran's office at 5-4376.

Tom Davis

Tom Davis

Jim Moran

Jim Moran

Doug Ose

Doug Ose

Cal Dooley

Cal Dooley

AFL-CIO

AFL-CIO

UNION INDUSTRIES SHOW

UNION LABEL & SERVICE TRADES DEPARTMENT

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR & CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

AFL CIO

ORG. MAR. 30, 1909

AFL-CIO
UNION INDUSTRIES SHOW

The AFL-CIO Union-Industries Show is one of the best known activities of the Union Label and Service Trades Department. The first Show was held in Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1938. It was discontinued during the World War II years, but has been held annually since 1948. Held in a different city each year, the Show is a cooperative effort of unions and the companies with which they have contracts. It is a colorful, exciting and educational exhibition of union-made, American-made products and services. Free to the public, the event draws tremendous crowds.

The Union Label and Service Trades Department was chartered by the AFL- CIO on March 30, 1909. The primary function of the Department is to promote the products and services produced in America by union members and especially those products and services identified by a union label, shop or store card or service button. The Department maintains and publishes the official "Don't Buy" list of boycotted companies endorsed by the AFL-CIO Executive Council. The Department also assists unions in conducting regional and national boycotts.

The Union Label Pledge

I AM A UNION WORKER. I know that I enjoy many things today because of the devotion and sacrifices of unionists before me who fought to win a better life for all working people.

I pledge to help my union brothers and sisters by buying union-made products and using union services.

I pledge further to buy only those goods in the marketplace that are made in this country by my fellow workers, and to avoid the imported products of those companies that export production, technology and jobs to low-wage countries, thus destroying jobs and undermining the economy of this nation.

As a unionist, I will not permit my union-earned dollars to profit those who refuse to recognize their employees' rights to participate in the collective bargaining process, and do not permit them to have a strong voice in determining their own future.

I pledge also to look for the Union Label on all goods and services that I use. By doing so, I help strengthen the security of those men and women who believe as I do in the goals of the free labor movement.

I demonstrate my unity with my labor brothers and sisters by observing a simple principle — the Union Label Golden Rule: Buy union products and use union services as you would have union wages and benefits paid unto you.

BUY UNION
Buy American
UNION LABEL AND SERVICE TRADES DEPARTMENT, AFL-CIO

Union Label and Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO
815 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
202-628-2131
FAX: 202-638-1602
WEB: www.unionlabel.org
E-Mail: ulstd@unionlabel.org

Union Label & Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO

Charles E. Mercer
President

Dennis L. Kivikko
Secretary-Treasurer,
Show Manager

September 29, 2000

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Over 18 months ago we, the Executive Board of the Union Label and Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO, authorized the President and Secretary-Treasurer of the Department to execute an initiative to stop the "Saipan Scam." This initiative included joining and working with the Take Pride in America Coalition and was by Resolution unanimously adopted by the 23rd AFL-CIO Convention (copy enclosed).

We urge you to do everything in your power to ensure that federal legislation stopping the "Saipan Scam" is enacted into law this year. We ask this on behalf of the millions of American men and women who are members of our affiliated AFL-CIO unions.

Right now, garment sweatshops operated by Chinese and other interests in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI or Saipan) are using loopholes in U.S. law to place "Made in USA" labels on goods made by Chinese workers using Chinese materials. Another loophole allows these Chinese goods to be shipped to the U.S. duty free. This outrage, known as the "Saipan Scam," deceives U.S. consumers, destroys U.S. jobs, and costs U.S. taxpayers $200 million a year.

Legislation to close these loopholes (S. 922 and H.R. 1621, "The 'Made in USA' Label Defense Act") is strongly supported by the American people. Working through the Take Pride in America Coalition and their more than 330 member organizations (see www.takepride.org), their calls, letters and personal visits have resulted in **233 House cosponsors – an outright majority of the House – and 36 Senate cosponsors for this legislation.** These supporters include Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt, Senator Joseph Lieberman, Senator Ted Kennedy and many other leaders in the Congress from both sides of the aisle. A list of current cosponsors is enclosed.

However, while Democrats have joined with Republicans in calling for these reforms to be passed, a leading Saipan factory boss disclosed to ABC's 20/20 News (5/24/99) that U.S. Rep. Tom Delay (R-TX) promised them that he would make sure these and other reforms did not come to a vote in the Congress. This is a travesty of justice to the majority supporting this bill, to America's working men and women who are losing jobs to this scam, and to those who are toiling in virtual indentured servitude in these sweatshops right under America's flag.

815 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 628-2131 • FAX: (202) 638-1602

Buy Union
Buy American

Web Site: www.unionlabel.org
E-mail: ULSTD@unionlabel.org

We trust that your Administration will insist on the inclusion of these reforms in your negotiations with Congress on an expected Omnibus Appropriations bill. In addition to restoring honesty to the "Made in USA" label for American consumers and saving thousands of jobs for American workers, the Administration has estimated that enactment of these reforms would achieve budget savings of $748 million over four years (copy enclosed). Righting this wrong is the morally and fiscally responsible thing to do for all Americans.

Please, Mr. President, make these critical reforms a "must-pass" element of any comprehensive appropriations package that your Administration negotiates this fall.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Charles E. Mercer, President
Union Label and Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO

Dennis L. Kivikko, Secretary-Treasurer
Union Label and Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO

James H. Dunn, Treasurer
PACE International Union

Jay Mazur, President
UNITE!

Timothy J. Fitzpatrick, Assistant to Director
Strategic Program Department, United Food and Commercial Workers International Union

Thomas C. Short, President
International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees and Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts of the U.S. and Canada

Donald W. Wharton, Secretary-Treasurer
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers

Douglas H. Dority, International President
United Food and Commercial Workers International Union

Gerald H. Deneau, Secretary-Treasurer
Graphic Communications International Union

James Rankin, President
Glass, Molders, Pottery, Plastics and Allied Workers International Union

Edwin D. Hill, Secretary-Treasurer
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

David B. Durkee, Secretary-Treasurer
Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers
and Grain Millers International Union

Larry D. Barber, Executive Vice President
Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers
and Grain M.llers International Union

James E. Cole, General Secretary
International Association of Bridge, Structural,
Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers

Edward J. McElroy, Secretary-Treasurer
American Federation of Teachers

Robert L. Tunstall, Secretary-Treasurer
American Postal Workers Union of the U.S. and Canada

Robert King, Vice President
International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace &
and Agricultural Implement Workers of America

Thomas H. Patchell, General Secretary-Treasurer
United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices
of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry
of the U. S. and Canada

Alfred T. Zlotopolski, General Secretary-Treasurer
Sheet Metal Workers' International Association

John J. Murphy, Director
ABG Division, United Steelworkers of America

Steve Young, President
American Federation of Musicians

CEM:eh
Enclosures
opeiu#2

cc: Albert Gore, Jr., Vice President of the United States
John Podesta, White House Chief of Staff
Bruce Reed, Assistant to the President For Domestic Policy
Larry Stein, Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs
Craig Smith, Assistant to the President for Political Affairs
Jack Lew, Director, Office of Management and Budget
John Sweeney, President, American Federation of Labor and
Congress of Industrial Organizations

18

OPPOSING THE ABUSE OF WORKERS AND THE MISUSE OF THE "MADE IN USA" LABEL IN THE U.S. COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Submitted by the AFL-CIO Union Label and Service Trades Department.

WHEREAS, sweatshop garment factories set up by the Chinese and others in the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) use a loophole in current U.S. law to deceptively apply the "Made in USA" label to products made with foreign workers and all foreign materials; and

WHEREAS, such misuse of the "Made in USA" label on these foreign products is a fraud and deception on millions of American consumers who rely on the truth of this label; and

WHEREAS, another loophole in U.S. law allows more than $1 billion worth of CNMI-produced goods to escape U.S. import duties, which in turn costs U.S. taxpayers an estimated $200 million annually in lost revenues; and

WHEREAS, these foreign-made goods from the CNMI unfairly compete against products actually made in the USA, thereby destroying the jobs of workers throughout America; and

WHEREAS, CNMI government and business leaders are actively pursuing investment by industries other than textiles, promoting the CNMI's "very special" relationship with the U.S. and the fact that it is exempt from U.S. minimum wage, immigration, and import duty laws; and

WHEREAS, bipartisan legislation has been introduced in both the U.S. House (H.R. 1621) and the U.S. Senate (S. 922) to close these loopholes to the benefit of U.S. working men and women, consumers, senior citizens, and taxpayers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this 23rd Convention of the AFL-CIO go on record as urging its affiliates to request that their local unions contact their elected representatives in Congress to request their cosponsorship of this reform legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this 23rd Convention of the AFL-CIO go on record as urging the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO and all affiliates to continue to work with the Union Label and Service Trades Department and the Take Pride in American Coalition to push for the immediate passage of this reform legislation.

Adopted at the 23rd AFL-CIO Constitutional Convention

Analytical Perspectives, Budget of the United States Government Fiscal Year 2000]
From the Budget of the U.S., FY 2000
Online via GPO Access

[[Page 71]] Modify International Trade Provisions

Extend and modify Puerto Rico economic-activity tax credit.--Although the Puerto Rico and possessions tax credit generally was repealed in 1996, both the income-based option and the economic-activity option under the credit remain available for existing business operations conducted in taxable years beginning before January 1, 2006, subject to base-period caps. To provide a more efficient tax incentive for the economic evelopment of Puerto Rico and to continue the shift from an income-based credit to an economic-activity-based credit that was begun in the 1993 Act, the budget would modify the phase-out of the economic-activity-based credit for Puerto Rico (under section 30A of the Code) by (1) opening it to newly established business operations during the phase-out period, effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1998, and (2) extending the phase-out period through taxable years beginning before January 1, 2009.

Extend the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) and modify other trade provisions.--Under GSP, duty-free access is provided to over 4,000 items from eligible developing countries that meet certain worker rights, intellectual property protection, and other criteria. The Administration proposes to extend the program, which expires after June 30, 1999, through June 30, 2000. The Administration is proposing permanent enhanced trade benefits for subsaharan African countries undertaking strong economic reforms. The Administration also proposes to provide, through June 30, 2001, expanded trade benefits mainly on textiles and apparel to Caribbean Basin countries that meet new eligibility criteria. These benefits will help Caribbean Basin countries prepare for a future free trade agreement with the United States and respond to the effects of Hurricanes George and Mitch. The Administration also proposes to implement the OECD Shipbuilding Agreement.

Levy tariff on certain textiles and apparel products produced in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).--The Administration has proposed a tariff on textile and apparel products produced in the CNMI without certain percentages of workers who are U.S. citizens, nationals or permanent residents or citizens of the Pacific island nations freely associated with the U.S.

Expand Virgin Island tariff credits.--The Administration proposes the expansion of authorized but urrently unused tariff credits for wages paid in the production of watches in the Virgin Islands to be available for the production of fine jewelry.

[[Page 87]] EFFECT OF PROPOSALS ON RECEIPTS (In millions of dollars)

	Estimate						
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2000-2004
. . .							
Modify international trade provisions:							
Extend and modify Puerto Rico economic-activity tax credit........	....	-24	-46	-71	-106	-141	-388
Extend GSP and modify other trade provisions \1\.....................	-84	-484	-223	-93	-96	-99	-995
Levy tariff on certain textiles/ apparel produced in the CNMI \1\....	....	....	**187**	**187**	**187**	**187**	**748**

Union Label & Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO

UNION INDUSTRIES SHOW

Charles E. Mercer
President

Dennis L. Kivikko
Secretary-Treasurer, Show Manager

October 23, 2000

Mr. Jacob J. Lew, Director
Office of Management and Budget
725 Seventeenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. Lew:

On behalf of our Executive Board and the more than 200 labor unions active in the Take Pride in America Coalition, we want to express our gratitude for the Administration's commitment to insist on the inclusion of the provisions of S. 922/H.R. 1621, "The 'Made in USA' Label Defense Act" in appropriations measures that are now being negotiated between the Administration and the Congress.

In addition to raising nearly $750 million in revenues to the Treasury over four years, enactment of these reforms will cap years of effort by the Administration to stop the rampant labor, economic and social abuses that have been perpetrated with impunity in the CNMI. The fact that many of these abuses can be traced to foreign interests operating under America's flag only heightens the sense of urgency for justice to prevail in this case.

As you know, the bipartisan political support in the Congress for these reforms is remarkably wide and deep – more than a majority of cosponsors in the House (235 Members) and 49 Senate cosponsors – and includes both House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt and Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle (a complete cosponsor list is enclosed). With the unwavering insistence by the Administration that these provisions be included in final appropriations packages, we are convinced that the Administration can beat this narrow special interest once and for all.

Thank you again for taking up the banner in support of these reforms. Please call me if you have any questions (202.628.2131), or feel free to call the Take Pride in America Coalition (202.333.3232) if there is anything they can do to help ensure these reforms are enacted into law.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Mercer

Charles E. Mercer
President

CEM:eh
Enclosures (Executive Board letter to President Clinton, and all enclosures)
opeiu#2

pc: (w/encl) Karen Tramontano, Assistant to the President & Counselor to the Chief of Staff,
The White House

Cosponsors of H. R. 1621/S. 922
"The 'Made in USA' Label Defense Act"
(as of October 18, 2000)

SENATE - S. 922 (49 total - 8 R's, 41 D's)

Alabama	Sessions (R), Shelby (R)
Arkansas	Lincoln (D)
California	Boxer (D), Feinstein (D)
Connecticut	Lieberman (D), Dodd (D)
Delaware	Biden (D)
Georgia	Cleland (D), Miller (D)
Hawaii	Akaka (D)
Illinois	Durbin (D)
Indiana	Bayh (D)
Iowa	Harkin (D)
Louisana	Breaux (D), Landrieu (D)
Maryland	Mikulski (D), Sarbanes (D)
Massachusetts	Kerry (D), Kennedy (D)
Maine	Snowe (R)
Michigan	Abraham (R)
Minnesota	Wellstone (D)
Montana	Baucus (D)
Nevada	Reid (D), Bryan (D)
New Mexico	Bingaman (D)
New Jersey	Torricelli (D), Lautenberg (D)
New York	Schumer (D)
North Carolina	Helms (R), Edwards (D)
North Dakota	Dorgan (D), Conrad (D)
Oklahoma	Inhofe (R)
Oregon	Wyden (D)
Pennsylvania	Santorum (R)
Rhode Island	Reed (D)
South Carolina	Hollings (D), Thurmond (R)
South Dakota	Johnson (D), Daschle (D)
Vermont	Leahy (D)
Virginia	Robb (D)
Washington	Murray (D)
West Virginia	Byrd (D), Rockefeller (D)
Wisconsin	Kohl (D), Feingold (D)

(more)

Cosponsors of H. R. 1621/S. 922
"The 'Made in USA' Label Defense Act"
(as of October 18, 2000)

HOUSE - H.R. 1621 (235 total - 38 R's, 196 D's, 2 I)

Alabama	Everett (R), Bachus (R), Callahan (R), Cramer (D), Aderholt (R), Hilliard (D)
Arizona	Pastor (D)
Arkansas	Snyder (D), Berry (D)
California	Miller (D), Stark (D), Martinez (D), Hunter (R), Sherman (D), Lee (D), Filner (D), Lantos (D), Pelosi (D), Berman (D), Capps (D), Lofgren (D), Eshoo (D), Woolsey (D), Napolitano (D), Dixon (D), Farr (D), Millender-McDonald (D), Sanchez (D), Waters (D), Baca (D), Roybal-Allard (D), Horn (R), Waxman (D), Condit (D), Becerra (D)
Colorado	Udall (D), DeGette (D)
Connecticut	DeLauro (D), Maloney (D), Gejdenson (D), Larson (D)
DC	Norton (D)
Florida	Thurman (D), Wexler (D), Brown (D), Meek (D), Boyd(D) , Deutsch (D)
Georgia	Deal (R), Lewis (D), Isakson (R), McKinney (D), Bishop (D), Norwood (R), Barr (R), Collins (R)
Hawaii	Mink (D), Abercrombie (D)
Illinois	Gutierrez (D), Lipinski (D), Phelps (D), Costello (D), Evans (D), Davis (D), Rush (D), Jackson (D), Blagojevich (D), Schakowsky (D)
Indiana	Visclosky (D), Carson (D), Roemer (D)
Iowa	Latham (R), Boswell (D)
Kansas	Moore (D)
Kentucky	Whitfield (R), Lucas (D)
Maine	Baldacci (D), Allen (D)
Maryland	Cummings (D), Wynn (D), Cardin (D)
Massachusetts	McGovern (D), Frank (D), Tierney (D), Capuano (D), Olver (D), Neal (D), Delahunt (D), Moakley (D), Markey (D)
Michigan	Dingell (D), Kildee (D), Kilpatrick (D), Rivers (D), Stabenow (D), Barcia (D), Stupak (D), Conyers (D), Bonior (D), Levin (D)
Minnesota	Luther (D), Oberstar (D), Vento (D), Peterson (D), Sabo (D), Minge (D)
Mississippi	Shows D), Thompson (D), Taylor (D)
Missouri	Danner (D), Gephardt (D), Clay (D), McCarthy (D)
Nebraska	Terry (R)
Nevada	Berkley (D)
New Jersey	Franks (R), Pallone (D), LoBiondo (R), Smith (R), Pascrell (D), Rothman (D), Menendez (D), Payne (D), Andrews (D), Holt (D)
New Mexico	Udall (D)
New York	Hinchey (D), Maloney (D), McHugh (R), Forbes (D), Weiner (D), Nadler (D), Walsh (R), King (R), Slaughter (D), Ackerman (D), Kelly (R), McNulty (D), Lowey (D), Engel (D), Towns (D), Owens (D), LaFalce (D), Velazquez (D), Crowley (D), Rangel (D), McCarthy (D), Meeks (D), Serrano (D), Gilman (R)
North Carolina	Price (D), McIntyre (D), Etheridge (D), Clayton (D), Coble (R), Myrick (R), Burr (R), Hayes (R), Watt (D), Ballenger (R), Jones (R)
North Dakota	Pomeroy (D)
Ohio	Brown (D), Kucinich (D), Traficant (D), LaTourette (R), Kaptur (D), Regula (R), Ney (R), Strickland (D), Jones (D), Hall (D), Sawyer (D)
Oregon	Wu (D), Blumenauer (D), DeFazio (D), Hooley (D)
Pennsylvania	Brady (D), Borski (D), Doyle (D), Murtha (D), Klink (D), Toomey (R), Holden (D), Coyne (D), Goodling (R), Mascara (D), Hoeffel (D), Fattah (D), Kanjorski (D)
Rhode Island	Kennedy (D), Weygand (D)
South Carolina	Clyburn (D), Spratt (D), Graham (R), Spence (R)
Texas	Green (D), Turner (D), Hinojosa (D), Frost (D), Sandlin (D), Gonzalez (D), Reyes (D), Lampson (D), Jackson-Lee (D), Rodriguez (D), Johnson (D), Bentsen (D), Ortiz (D)
Tennessee	Clement (D), Ford (D), Gordon (D), Tanner (D)
Vermont	Sanders (I)
Virginia	Goode (I), Boucher (D), Goodlatte (R), Moran (D), Pickett (D), Scott (D), Sisisky (D)
Washington	Baird (D), Inslee (D), Metcalf (R), McDermott (D), Dicks (D)
West Virginia	Rahall (D), Mollohan (D), Wise (D)
Wisconsin	Barrett (D), Sensenbrenner (R), Obey (D), Baldwin (D), Kleczka (D), Kind (D)

AFL-CIO

Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

1101 14th Street, N.W., Suite 300 . Washington, DC 20005 . (202) 289-7174 . Fax (202) 371-0168

An AFL-CIO "Union City"

May 26, 2000

Ms. Karen Tramantano
Deputy Chief of Staff
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington DC 20500

Dear ~~Ms. Tramantano~~ Karen:

Recent events surrounding the DNC's attempted use of a facility owned by an anti-union employer compels us to remind you that working men and women in the labor community expect those whom we support to be strong advocates of the interests of working families.

As the local voice of the AFL-CIO, the Metropolitan Washington Council is composed of more than 200 locals with over 150,000 area union members who work in facilities that provide excellent services and quality products.

These men and women are dedicated residents working to improve the quality of life in their community. One of the major ways we ensure this is through our active participation in the political process, organizing activities on the precinct level designed to support candidates who advance the interests of working families from the courthouses to the White House.

The Democratic Party has long claimed the mantle of leadership in championing the needs of working families and, finding this to generally be the case, organized labor has contributed tremendous time and resources to the Party.

However, if we are to continue these efforts so critical to the future of both the Democratic Party and organized labor, the Party must make every effort to fully use and support union services and products. Not just because it's the right thing to do, but because of what union services and products represent: decent wages and benefits, and dignity on the job for working people.

The metropolitan Washington area boasts many fine facilities and service providers who rely on union workers or union-made products, from hotel, restaurant and meeting facilities to transportation needs as well as a wide array of goods and services. We urge you to avail yourself of these vendors: queries should be directed to the Council at 202-289-7174 or via email at dcstreetheat@earthlink.net

Ms. Karen Tramantano
May 26, 2000
Page two

We are proud of the long and mutually beneficial relationship between the Democratic Party and organized labor, and look forward to continuing to work closely together to improve the quality of life for America's working families.

In solidarity,

Joslyn N. Williams, President
Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

Fax to
Mike Berman

728.1100

Karen

Fax (202) 728-1123

CHARLES L. LITTLE
International President
BYRON A. BOYD, JR.
Assistant President
PAUL C. THOMPSON
General Secretary and Treasurer

united transportation union

14600 DETROIT AVENUE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44107-4250
PHONE: 216-228-9400
FAX: 216-228-5755

January 21, 2000

FAX

Mr. John J. Sweeney, President
AFL - CIO
815 Sixteenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 637-5000
FAX (202) 508-6946

Dear President Sweeney:

As unpleasant as it is, I must express in the strongest possible terms my great disappointment with the reported remarks and behavior of Federation Secretary-Treasurer Richard L. Trumka at a meeting yesterday afternoon at the Federation about an issue of great importance to the rail membership of UTU.

The topic of the meeting was what is known in rail labor as "cram-down," meaning the use of the immunity provision in the Interstate Commerce Act to permit rail carriers to rid themselves of inconvenient collective bargaining agreement provisions in mergers approved by the Surface Transportation Board. UTU Alternate National Legislative Director James A. Stem attended the meeting with Secretary-Treasurer Trumka, along with TCU International President Robert A. Scardelletti and Vice President Joel Parker, Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen ("BRS") President W. D. "Dan" Pickett, BLE President Ed Dubroski, IAM Railroad Coordinator Mark Flipovic, counsel to BMWE Don Griffin, Charlie Moneypenny of TWU and Dewey Garland of the SMWIA. Also in attendance were TTD Executive Director Edward Wytkind and counsel to TTD Greg Lawler and Sante Esposito, along with others.

It has been reported to me by UTU Assistant National Legislative Director Stem that Secretary-Treasurer Trumka opened the meeting with a discussion of the deal he had late last year with Association of American Railroads ("AAR") President Ed Hamberger on cram-down. He defined the deal as a three-year moratorium and a commitment to negotiate in good faith to reach an agreement to end cram-down. He also said that Mr. Hamberger called the White House immediately following the agreement to confirm the details of the arrangement. After Mr. Hamberger reneged on the deal, the White House made a commitment to put this issue on the table and to push it forward during budget reconciliation, according to Secretary-Treasurer Trumka. Secretary-Treasurer Trumka quoted the White House as saying that Congressman Bud Shuster blocked the budget deal that would have effectively passed the Crapo Bill, which would end cram-down legislatively. Secretary-Treasurer Trumka summed up the situation by saying the White House was now ready to help with cram-down legislation.

TCU International President Bob Scardelletti thanked Secretary-Treasurer Trumka for what he had done to move this issue forward, and had many complimentary things to say about how he had handled this process, but said that he thought there was a deal available to end this problem immediately, and the only way to find out what was available was to go to the table with the rail carriers. He also stated that he had talked to me and BRS President Dan Pickett, and that we also agreed that there was a good possibility for a deal with the carriers. BMWE counsel Don Griffin stated that he had met BNSF CEO Rob Krebs and Canadian National CEO Paul Tellier the day before, and they readily offered a deal to end cram-down.

UTU Assistant National Legislative Director Stem also thanked Secretary-Treasurer Trumka for what he had done to bring this issue forward, but supported TCU International President Scardelletti's comments. BLE President Ed Dubroski then spoke and pledged his support not to do anything that did not go through Secretary-Treasurer Trumka, also saying National Carriers' Conference Committee Chairman Bob Allen had offered a deal on cram-down the day before, but would not put it in writing.

Secretary-Treasurer Trumka then stated that if anyone met with National Carriers' Conference Committee Chairman Bob Allen to negotiate on this issue that two things would happen:

1. We would lose the moratorium that was in the deal with Mr. Hamberger, and,
2. You will "cut my nuts out."

He then stated that he probably should get the White House to come out in support of the "Shippers' Bill," and threaten the railroads with AFL-CIO support for it. This bill would, among other things, grant open access on the nation's railroads to shippers and other rail carriers that would greatly harm the UTU membership. It was reported to me that Secretary-Treasurer Trumka completely lost his composure and was visibly upset, threatening "this group" three times with his support of the "Shippers' Bill."

Dan Pickett spoke at length about a deal being possible, and the fact we had legislative people negotiating for the unions. His comments irritated Secretary-Treasurer Trumka, who interrupted him. UTU Assistant National Legislative Director Stem asked Secretary-Treasurer Trumka if he was aware of the union jobs that would be lost in the rail industry if the "Shippers' Bill" became law. Secretary-Treasurer Trumka responded that he was aware of that. Brother Stem asked Secretary-Treasurer Trumka if any other unions had approached him about support of this "Shippers' Bill," and his response was "No, not yet."

TCU International President Scardelletti then stated that he had a responsibility to produce results for his members and he had no faith in the White House process. Secretary-Treasurer Trumka was visibly upset and waived his arm to mean "everyone in the room," and unbelievably stated: "If all of you take a public position opposing this Shippers' Bill, that will not have an effect on the official position of the AFL-CIO."

Article II, Section 5 of the Federation Constitution says that one of the objects and principles of the Federation is:

> 5. To secure legislation that will safeguard and promote the principle of free collective bargaining, the rights of workers, ... and the security and welfare of all the people and to oppose legislation inimical to these objectives.

Secretary-Treasurer Trumka's threat to back the Shippers' Bill that would jeopardize the jobs of thousands of employees UTU represents out of spite for our desire, and that of TCU and BRS, to negotiate with the rail carriers over an issue of vital importance to us is a direct violation of one of the fundamental principles of the Federation.

Moreover, I barely had notice of Secretary-Treasurer Trumka's involvement in the cram-down legislative process late last year that led to the failed moratorium agreement with the AAR. I got a call at 10:00 a.m. that he was going to meet with Mr. Hamberger at 1:00 p.m. that day. Beyond that, it was later reported by counsel for TTD to my counsel that the leverage used to obtain the failed agreement was to drop labor's opposition to the re-appointment of STB Chairwoman Linda Morgan, when UTU was in support of her re-appointment all along. Finally, it is incredible that BNSF would be sought out for support separate from the other carriers when it currently has a cram-down notice pending with UTU that greatly concerns us.

UTU has grown more than weary of TTD and Secretary-Treasurer Trumka operating outside the bounds of consensus in legislation. The policy of the Federation is supposed to be that if affiliates have differing positions on pending legislation, the Federation must adopt a neutral stance. I expect that policy to be enforced here.

I want immediate advice from you that Secretary-Treasurer Trumka will not be permitted to make good on his threat that unless we agree to not meet with the NCCC to negotiate an end to cram-down, he will secure Federation support for the Shippers' Bill. I cannot justify the Federation's position to our members if it directly threatens their jobs. Please respond at your very earliest convenience today because I fully intend to meet with the NCCC about cram-down.

Sincerely,

Charles L. Little
International President

cc: Richard L. Trumka, AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. (FAX)
Byron A. Boyd, Jr., UTU Assistant President
All UTU International Officers (FAX)
All Rail Chief Executives (FAX)
Edward Wytkind, Exec. Dir.-TTD (FAX)

Brotherhood of locomotive E gi eers

1370 ONTARIO STREET
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44113-1702
TELEPHONE (216) 241-2630
FAX: (216) 241-6516

EDWARD DUBROSKI
International President

RECEIVED
JAN 24 2000
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

VIA FACSIMILE

January 22, 2000

Mr. John J. Sweeney
President
American Federation of Labor and
Congress of Industrial Organizations
815 16th Street
Washington, D.C. 20006

Dear President Sweeney,

I read with astonishment UTU President Little's letter to you dated yesterday, in which he launched an unwarranted and baseless personal attack against General-Secretary Treasurer Trumka. As a participant at that meeting, which President Little admittedly did not attend, I must set the record straight.

To begin with, UTU was the only rail labor union to support STB Chair Linda Morgan's reconfirmation last year. The other rail labor affiliates worked assiduously to obtain a series of holds on the nomination, overcoming intense pressure from Senator Hollings. The holds created the leverage by which Brother Trumka successfully negotiated the agreement with Mr. Hamberger, which Hamberger repudiated after Morgan was confirmed. At that point, our leverage to obtain a fair deal for our members — and all railroad workers — disappeared.

In my opinion, the cornerstone of successful collective bargaining is the willingness to invest the time and hard work required to maximize leverage, and starting over after a setback, when that is necessary. Accordingly, and with my approval, several BLE members, some of whom are elected public officials, met with Senator Crapo in Idaho during December. I believe a number of UTU officials also were in attendance. At that meeting, Senator Crapo committed to pursuing his bill, which would outlaw "cram down," and we committed to finding sponsorship and support in the House for an identical bill. My thinking was and continues to be that this course of action provides us with a way to recapture our lost leverage, as well the potential for an outright "win" for labor on the issue.

At the December meeting of TTD's Rail Labor Division, which took place after the meeting with Senator Crapo, UTU representatives urged the body to consider an immediate return to the bargaining table, claiming that the carriers wanted to work out a "quick deal." None of the other unions present, with one possible exception, were interested in pursuing a course that would produce an inferior agreement, given that we were only in the earliest stages of rebuilding our bargaining leverage.

During the Rail Labor Division meeting held on January 11th it became apparent that at least three affiliates were considering breaking ranks and opening discussions on their own. Brother Trumka asked the Chiefs to meet in order to attempt to maintain consensus, and prevent an even worse deal by virtue of the carriers whipsawing labor. At no time was his conduct anything other than professional and courteous; I do not consider his plain language expressing his displeasure over the AAR's double-cross inappropriate.

I also must disagree in the strongest possible terms with President Little's characterization of the discussion as Brother Trumka making "threats." Brother Trumka was right on target concerning how a handful of unions breaking consensus and engaging in separate negotiations would emasculate the Federation and make it irrelevant as a source of support for rail labor, because the carriers would know that all they have to do to nullify the Federation's power is to find a "weak sister" willing to walk away from the group.

In fact, this precise point was made over sixty years ago by former President Kennedy of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen. Brother Kennedy pointed to a history of the railroad industry picking off rail unions to enhance their leverage in gaining legislation favorable to the carriers, only to deliver little or nothing in terms of a quid pro quo. I find it most ironic that one of Kennedy's successors (UTU was formed by a 1969 merger of the BRT and three other unions) habitually plays the role about which he cautioned.

The discussion with respect to supporting a shippers' bill <u>as a tactical measure</u> centered around the pros and cons insofar as they relate to strengthening our leverage at the table with the carriers, who very badly want rail labor's support for a "clean" STB reauthorization bill (<u>i.e.</u>, no pro-shipper provisions). There easily can be honest differences of opinion on the question. For example, BLE opposes the bill in its present form, because the "open access" provision could be devastating for our members working in terminal areas.

However, I would not rule out the possibility of "flirting" with the shippers, if a bill was neutral to the interests of rail labor and that flirtation prompted the carriers to improve their offer. UTU, on the other hand, appears to adamantly oppose even discussing the possibilities in the abstract. In any event, all I believe Brother Trumka said was that neither the UTU, nor any other single affiliate, should be able to dictate Federation policy.

Most disturbing to me, however, was a series of misrepresentations of President Little, by which he appears to be creating a justification for, once again, breaking ranks with the House of Labor and pursuing his own agenda. Specifically:

- BMWE General Counsel Griffin <u>did not</u> state that the CEOs of BNSF and CN "readily offered a deal to end cram-down." He reported that, at a meeting between officials of BMWE and the two carriers to discuss the implications of their proposed merger, both men stated that they would have supported the agreement negotiated by Brother Trumka and Mr. Hamberger.

- With respect to my conversation with NCCC Chairman Bob Allen, the facts are as follows. Mr. Allen attempted to engage me in separate negotiations on cram down, claiming that Brother Trumka was unwilling to speak with Mr. Hamberger. I immediately telephoned Brother Trumka, to ask him to comment on Allen's allegation. Brother

Trumka stated that his fax machine was on and he was ready to receive any industry proposal. When I reported this fact to Allen, he was unwilling to produce one.

The consensus that Brother Trumka was able to forge — and to which President Little's representative did not object — was to hold in abeyance for one week any action on the issue of resuming talks, during which time BMWE would ask BNSF and CN to confirm in writing the verbal representation they made concerning the Trumka-Hamberger agreement, after which the group would reconvene to discuss what step to take next; nothing more and nothing less. Therefore, President Little's incredulity "that BNSF would be sought out for support separate from the other carriers when it currently has a cram-down notice pending with UTU that greatly concerns us" is facile and self-serving. If President Little worried as much about dividing labor as he is about dividing the carriers, perhaps we wouldn't be in the position in which we find ourselves.

Moreover, it should be noted that the issue of outstanding New York Dock notices was discussed at a meeting between the Chiefs and the NCCC on October 25, 1999, long before Brother Trumka was asked to lend his assistance. At that meeting, the BLE and UTU representatives agreed to a unified position that all outstanding notices directed at any craft represented by either Organization would have to be handled under whatever new procedure was adopted, rather than the current "cram down" provisions. The carriers conceded on the question, and I remain committed to the position; President Little's claim is merely a red herring.

While President Little "has grown more than weary of TTD and Secretary-Treasurer Trumka operating outside the bounds of consensus," I have grown more than weary of the UTU leadership's consistent efforts to undermine consensus on nearly every issue confronted by the Rail Labor Division. Brother Trumka has been operating on the basis of consensus, and President Little's letter is nothing more than an attempt to cloud the fact that he is, once again, breaking the consensus his representative agreed to less than twenty-four hours earlier. His attempt to paralyze the Federation so that he can be free to pursue his own agenda is shameful, and is destructive to all of rail labor.

In solidarity,

Edward Dubroski

President

cc: R. L. Trumka, AFL-CIO S/T (via facsimile)
All Rail Chiefs (via facsimile)
E. Wytkind, TTD Exec. Dir. (via facsimile)
BLE Advisory Board

Mac A. Fleming
President

[illegible] LaRue
Secretary-Treasurer

Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employes
Affiliated with the A.F.L.-C.I.O. and C.L.C.

January 21, 2000

RECEIVED
JAN 2 1 2000
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

via fax

John J. Sweeney, President
AFL-CIO
815 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006

Re: Letter of January 21, 2000 from UTU President C. L. Little

Dear President Sweeney:

I recently received a copy of President Little's letter expressing his displeasure with Secretary-Treasurer Rich Trumka's alleged behavior at a meeting held yesterday at AFL-CIO headquarters. As President Little's letter makes clear, he did not attend the meeting; [illegible] President Little has been grievously misinformed about what occurred there. I can unequivocally state that Rich did not "threaten" anyone or any organization present at the meeting.

At yesterday's meeting Rich gave those attending an update on what had happened since the Association of American Railroads ("AAR") reneged on an agreement reached between Rich and AAR President Ed Hamberger. The essence of that agreement was the railroads agreed to a 3-year moratorium on the use of the "cram down" provisions of the Interstate Commerce Act while the railroads and labor attempted to negotiate a replacement to it. If the parties could agree, then labor and the railroads would lobby Congress to pass a "clean" reauthorization of the Surface Transportation Board. As Rich correctly pointed out several times yesterday, the moratorium provided substantial bargaining leverage for labor because until the railroads reached an agreement with labor on "cram down," they could not use it.

The primary topic of discussion yesterday concerned what course of action the rail unions should take. I expressed BMWE's position that Rich had bargained on our behalf with Mr. Hamberger pursuant to the request of the Transportation Trades Department and that until the AAR signed the agreement they had reneged upon, there was no point in bargaining with the railroads. Throughout that discussion, Rich acted in a civil manner toward all present although he was interrupted several times by the United Transportation Union's representative at the meeting, James Stem. At all times, Rich said that he did not take the AAR's reneging [illegible] on the deal personally, and that no organization should do likewise. He repeatedly said that he would "get out of the way" if that is what the rail unions collectively wanted. Rich also added that if the unions chose to meet with the railroads without the moratorium, it could compr[illegible] his ability to provide assistance on Capitol Hill and with the White House on future ma[illegible] did not take that observation as a threat. Rather, it was an honest and accurate assessm[illegible] Rich of one of the consequences of meeting with the railroads without an agreement. At no [illegible] Rich "threaten" any organization that if they met with the railroads that the AFL-C[illegible] support a "shipper friendly" reauthorization of the STB. What Rich did say to Mr. [illegible] was that simply because the UTU and/or some other unions opposed a "shipper friendly" bill, no[illegible] AFL-CIO affiliates would necessarily agree. He also added that just because one or more unions opposed a "shipper friendly" bill that did not automatically mean the AFL-CIO als[illegible] oppose or support the bill. Again, those are statements of fact, not "threats." Frank[illegible] not understand how anyone who participated in the meeting could conclude that Rich [illegible] anyone or any organization.

After much discussion, the unions agreed by consensus on the following cou[illegible] action. I had reported that in a meeting held Wednesday, January 19, 2000, Canadian Nati[illegible] CEO Paul Tellier and Burlington Northern Santa Fe's CEO Rob Krebs stated that they d[illegible] have any difficulties with the agreement Rich negotiated with the AAR that included the m[illegible]ium. I volunteered the BMWE to contact Messrs. Krebs and Tellier to see if they would pr[illegible] written confirmation of their earlier statements. Upon receiving a response from Mess[illegible] Tellier and Krebs, BMWE would contact Ed Wytkind at the TTD. At that point, the uni[illegible] hold another meeting with Rich present to decide what course of action to take. At the [illegible]n of the meeting, SEIU representative Dan Anderson said to everyone in the room, "so [illegible] no meetings with the railroads regarding cram down until we meet again." No one in th[illegible], including the UTU's representative, expressed opposition to Mr. Anderson's statem[illegible]

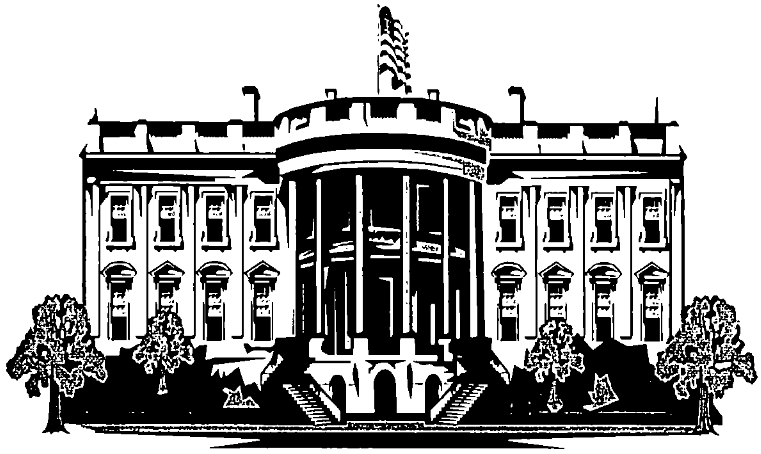
In conclusion, I want to stress that I believe, Brother Trumka behaved in a [illegible]nal and honorable manner toward all participants. He demonstrated courtesy to all parti[illegible] and the organizations they represented.

In solidarity,

Donald F. Griffin

Donald F. Griffin
Assistant General Counsel

cc: R. L. Trumka (fax)
M. A. Fleming (fax)
All Rail Chief Executives (fax)
E. Wytkind (fax)



FAX COVER SHEET

KAREN A. TRAMONTANO
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND
COUNSELOR TO THE CHIEF OF STAFF
THE WHITE HOUSE
GROUND FLOOR, WEST WING
WASHINGTON, DC 20500
PHONE: 202/456-1987 • FAX: 202/456-2030

DATE: 1/31/00

PLEASE DELIVER TO: Mike Berman

FAX NUMBER: (202) 728-1123

SENT BY: ______Karen Tramontano ✓ Carolyn Wu

NUMBER OF PAGES: 9
(including cover sheet)

Union Label & Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO

AFL-CIO
UNION INDUSTRIES SHOW

Charles E. Mercer
President

Dennis L. Kivikko
Secretary-Treasurer, Show Manager

September 29, 2000 Cathy min wage

KT

Let's discuss cc: Karen T.
Tom

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Over 18 months ago we, the Executive Board of the Union Label and Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO, authorized the President and Secretary-Treasurer of the Department to execute an initiative to stop the "Saipan Scam." This initiative included joining and working with the Take Pride in America Coalition and was by Resolution unanimously adopted by the 23rd AFL-CIO Convention (copy enclosed).

We urge you to do everything in your power to ensure that federal legislation stopping the "Saipan Scam" is enacted into law this year. We ask this on behalf of the millions of American men and women who are members of our affiliated AFL-CIO unions.

Right now, garment sweatshops operated by Chinese and other interests in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI or Saipan) are using loopholes in U.S. law to place "Made in USA" labels on goods made by Chinese workers using Chinese materials. Another loophole allows these Chinese goods to be shipped to the U.S. duty free. This outrage, known as the "Saipan Scam," deceives U.S. consumers, destroys U.S. jobs, and costs U.S. taxpayers $200 million a year.

Legislation to close these loopholes (S. 922 and H.R. 1621, "The 'Made in USA' Label Defense Act") is strongly supported by the American people. Working through the Take Pride in America Coalition and their more than 330 member organizations (see www.takepride.org), their calls, letters and personal visits have resulted in **233 House cosponsors – an outright majority of the House – and 36 Senate cosponsors for this legislation.** These supporters include Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt, Senator Joseph Lieberman, Senator Ted Kennedy and many other leaders in the Congress from both sides of the aisle. A list of current cosponsors is enclosed.

However, while Democrats have joined with Republicans in calling for these reforms to be passed, a leading Saipan factory boss disclosed to ABC's 20/20 News (5/24/99) that U.S. Rep. Tom Delay (R-TX) promised them that he would make sure these and other reforms did not come to a vote in the Congress. This is a travesty of justice to the majority supporting this bill, to America's working men and women who are losing jobs to this scam, and to those who are toiling in virtual indentured servitude in these sweatshops right under America's flag.

815 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 628-2131 • FAX: (202) 638-1602

Web Site: www.unionlabel.org
E-mail: ULSTD@unionlabel.org

We trust that your Administration will insist on the inclusion of these reforms in your negotiations with Congress on an expected Omnibus Appropriations bill. In addition to restoring honesty to the "Made in USA" label for American consumers and saving thousands of jobs for American workers, the Administration has estimated that enactment of these reforms would achieve budget savings of $748 million over four years (copy enclosed). Righting this wrong is the morally and fiscally responsible thing to do for all Americans.

Please, Mr. President, make these critical reforms a "must-pass" element of any comprehensive appropriations package that your Administration negotiates this fall.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Charlie E Mercer

Charles E. Mercer, President
Union Label and Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO

Dennis L. Kivikko, Secretary-Treasurer
Union Label and Service Trades Department, AFL-CIO

James H Dunn

James H. Dunn, Treasurer
PACE International Union

Jay Mazur, President
UNITE!

Timothy J. Fitzpatrick

Timothy J. Fitzpatrick, Assistant to Director
Strategic Program Department, United Food and Commercial Workers International Union

Thomas C. Short, President
International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees and Moving Picture Technicians, Artists and Allied Crafts of the U.S. and Canada

Donald W. Wharton

Donald W. Wharton, Secretary-Treasurer
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers

Douglas H. Dority

Douglas H. Dority, International President
United Food and Commercial Workers International Union

Gerald Deneau

Gerald H. Deneau, Secretary-Treasurer
Graphic Communications International Union

James H Rankin

James Rankin, President
Glass, Molders, Pottery, Plastics and Allied Workers International Union

Edwin D. Hill, Secretary-Treasurer
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

David B. Durkee, Secretary-Treasurer
Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers
and Grain Millers International Union

Larry D. Barber, Executive Vice President
Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers
and Grain Millers International Union

James E. Cole, General Secretary
International Association of Bridge, Structural,
Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers

Edward J. McElroy, Secretary-Treasurer
American Federation of Teachers

Robert L. Tunstall, Secretary-Treasurer
American Postal Workers Union of the U.S. and Canada

Robert King, Vice President
International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace &
and Agricultural Implement Workers of America

Thomas H. Patchell, General Secretary-Treasurer
United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices
of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry
of the U. S. and Canada

Alfred T. Zlotopolski, General Secretary-Treasurer
Sheet Metal Workers' International Association

John J. Murphy, Director
ABG Division, United Steelworkers of America

Steve Young, President
American Federation of Musicians

CEM:ch
Enclosures
opeiu#2

cc: Albert Gore, Jr., Vice President of the United States
John Podesta, White House Chief of Staff
Bruce Reed, Assistant to the President For Domestic Policy
Larry Stein, Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs
Craig Smith, Assistant to the President for Political Affairs
Jack Lew, Director, Office of Management and Budget
John Sweeney, President, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations

18

OPPOSING THE ABUSE OF WORKERS AND THE MISUSE OF THE "MADE IN USA" LABEL IN THE U.S. COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Submitted by the AFL-CIO Union Label and Service Trades Department.

WHEREAS, sweatshop garment factories set up by the Chinese and others in the U.S. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) use a loophole in current U.S. law to deceptively apply the "Made in USA" label to products made with foreign workers and all foreign materials; and

WHEREAS, such misuse of the "Made in USA" label on these foreign products is a fraud and deception on millions of American consumers who rely on the truth of this label; and

WHEREAS, another loophole in U.S. law allows more than $1 billion worth of CNMI-produced goods to escape U.S. import duties, which in turn costs U.S. taxpayers an estimated $200 million annually in lost revenues; and

WHEREAS, these foreign-made goods from the CNMI unfairly compete against products actually made in the USA, thereby destroying the jobs of workers throughout America; and

WHEREAS, CNMI government and business leaders are actively pursuing investment by industries other than textiles, promoting the CNMI's "very special" relationship with the U.S. and the fact that it is exempt from U.S. minimum wage, immigration, and import duty laws; and

WHEREAS, bipartisan legislation has been introduced in both the U.S. House (H.R. 1621) and the U.S. Senate (S. 922) to close these loopholes to the benefit of U.S. working men and women, consumers, senior citizens, and taxpayers;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this 23rd Convention of the AFL-CIO go on record as urging its affiliates to request that their local unions contact their elected representatives in Congress to request their cosponsorship of this reform legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this 23rd Convention of the AFL-CIO go on record as urging the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO and all affiliates to continue to work with the Union Label and Service Trades Department and the Take Pride in American Coalition to push for the immediate passage of this reform legislation.

Adopted at the 23rd AFL-CIO Constitutional Convention

Analytical Perspectives, Budget of the United States Government Fiscal Year 2000]
From the Budget of the U.S., FY 2000
Online via GPO Access

 Modify International Trade Provisions

Extend and modify Puerto Rico economic-activity tax credit.--Although the Puerto Rico and possessions tax credit generally was repealed in 1996, both the income-based option and the economic-activity option under the credit remain available for existing business operations conducted in taxable years beginning before January 1, 2006, subject to base-period caps. To provide a more efficient tax incentive for the economic evelopment of Puerto Rico and to continue the shift from an income-based credit to an economic-activity-based credit that was begun in the 1993 Act, the budget would modify the phase-out of the economic-activity-based credit for Puerto Rico (under section 30A of the Code) by (1) opening it to newly established business operations during the phase-out period, effective for taxable years beginning after December 31, 1998, and (2) extending the phase-out period through taxable years beginning before January 1, 2009.

Extend the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) and modify other trade provisions.--Under GSP, duty-free access is provided to over 4,000 items from eligible developing countries that meet certain worker rights, intellectual property protection, and other criteria. The Administration proposes to extend the program, which expires after June 30, 1999, through June 30, 2000. The Administration is proposing permanent enhanced trade benefits for subsaharan African countries undertaking strong economic reforms. The Administration also proposes to provide, through June 30, 2001, expanded trade benefits mainly on textiles and apparel to Caribbean Basin countries that meet new eligibility criteria. These benefits will help Caribbean Basin countries prepare for a future free trade agreement with the United States and respond to the effects of Hurricanes George and Mitch. The Administration also proposes to implement the OECD Shipbuilding Agreement.

Levy tariff on certain textiles and apparel products produced in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).--The Administration has proposed a tariff on textile and apparel products produced in the CNMI without certain percentages of workers who are U.S. citizens, nationals or permanent residents or citizens of the Pacific island nations freely associated with the U.S.

Expand Virgin Island tariff credits.--The Administration proposes the expansion of authorized but urrently unused tariff credits for wages paid in the production of watches in the Virgin Islands to be available for the production of fine jewelry.

 EFFECT OF PROPOSALS ON RECEIPTS (In millions of dollars)

	Estimate						
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2000-2004
. . .							
Modify international trade provisions:							
Extend and modify Puerto Rico economic-activity tax credit........	....	-24	-46	-71	-106	-141	-388
Extend GSP and modify other trade provisions \1\.....................	-84	-484	-223	-93	-96	-99	-995
Levy tariff on certain textiles/ apparel produced in the CNMI \1\....	....	....	**187**	**187**	**187**	**187**	**748**

Cosponsors of H. R. 1621/S. 922
"The 'Made in USA' Label Defense Act"

(as of September 29, 2000)

SENATE - S. 922 (36 total - 8 R's, 28 D's)

Alabama	Sessions (R), Shelby (R)
Arkansas	Lincoln (D)
California	Boxer (D), Feinstein (D)
Connecticut	Lieberman (D)
Georgia	Cleland (D)
Hawaii	Akaka (D)
Illinois	Durbin (D)
Indiana	Bayh (D)
Iowa	Harkin (D)
Louisana	Breaux (D)
Maryland	Mikulski (D)
Massachusetts	Kerry (D), Kennedy (D)
Maine	Snowe (R)
Michigan	Abraham (R)
Minnesota	Wellstone (D)
Montana	Baucus (D)
New Jersey	Torricelli (D)
North Carolina	Helms (R), Edwards (D)
North Dakota	Dorgan (D), Conrad (D)
Oklahoma	Inhofe (R)
Oregon	Wyden (D)
Pennsylvania	Santorum (R)
Rhode Island	Reed (D)
South Carolina	Hollings (D), Thurmond (R)
South Dakota	Johnson (D), Daschle (D)
West Virginia	Byrd (D), Rockefeller (D)
Wisconsin	Kohl (D), Feingold (D)

HOUSE - H.R. 1621 (233 total - 37 R's, 195 D's, 2 I)

Alabama	Everett (R), Bachus (R), Callahan (R), Cramer (D), Aderholt (R), Hilliard (D)
Arizona	Pastor (D)
Arkansas	Snyder (D), Berry (D)
California	Miller (D), Stark (D), Martinez (D), Hunter (R), Sherman (D), Lee (D), Filner (D), Lantos (D), Pelosi (D), Berman (D), Capps (D), Lofgren (D), Eshoo (D), Woolsey (D), Napolitano (D), Dixon (D), Farr (D), Millender-McDonald (D), Sanchez (D), Waters (D), Baca (D), Roybal-Allard (D), Horn (R), Waxman (D), Condit (D), Becerra (D)
Colorado	Udall (D), DeGette (D)
Connecticut	DeLauro (D), Maloney (D), Gejdenson (D), Larson (D)
DC	Norton (D)
Florida	Thurman (D), Wexler (D), Brown (D), Meek (D), Boyd(D) , Deutsch (D)

Georgia	Deal (R), Lewis (D), Isakson (R), McKinney (D), Bishop (D), Norwood (R), Barr (R), Collins (R)
Hawaii	Mink (D), Abercrombie (D)
Illinois	Gutierrez (D), Lipinski (D), Phelps (D), Costello (D), Evans (D), Davis (D), Rush (D), Jackson (D), Blagojevich (D), Schakowsky (D)
Indiana	Visclosky (D), Carson (D), Roemer (D)
Iowa	Latham (R), Boswell (D)
Kansas	Moore (D)
Kentucky	Whitfield (R), Lucas (D)
Maine	Baldacci (D), Allen (D)
Maryland	Cummings (D), Wynn (D), Cardin (D)
Massachusetts	McGovern (D), Frank (D), Tierney (D), Capuano (D), Olver (D), Neal (D), Delahunt (D), Moakley (D), Markey (D)
Michigan	Dingell (D), Kildee (D), Kilpatrick (D), Rivers (D), Stabenow (D), Barcia (D), Stupak (D), Conyers (D), Bonior (D), Levin (D)
Minnesota	Luther (D), Oberstar (D), Vento (D), Peterson (D), Sabo (D), Minge (D)
Mississippi	Shows D), Thompson (D), Taylor (D)
Missouri	Danner (D), Gephardt (D), Clay (D), McCarthy (D)
Nebraska	Terry (R)
Nevada	Berkley (D)
New Jersey	Franks (R), Pallone (D), LoBiondo (R), Smith (R), Pascrell (D), Rothman (D), Menendez (D), Payne (D), Andrews (D), Holt (D)
New Mexico	Udall (D)
New York	Hinchey (D), Maloney (D), McHugh (R), Forbes (D), Weiner (D), Nadler (D), Walsh (R), King (R), Slaughter (D), Ackerman (D), Kelly (R), McNulty (D), Lowey (D), Engel (D), Towns (D), Owens (D), LaFalce (D), Velazquez (D), Crowley (D), Rangel (D), McCarthy (D), Meeks (D), Serrano (D), Gilman (R)
North Carolina	Price (D), McIntyre (D), Etheridge (D), Clayton (D), Coble (R), Myrick (R), Burr (R), Hayes (R), Watt (D), Ballenger (R)
North Dakota	Pomeroy (D)
Ohio	Brown (D), Kucinich (D), Traficant (D), LaTourette (R), Kaptur (D), Regula (R), Ney (R), Strickland (D), Jones (D), Hall (D), Sawyer (D)
Oregon	Wu (D), Blumenauer (D), DeFazio (D), Hooley (D)
Pennsylvania	Brady (D), Borski (D), Doyle (D), Murtha (D), Klink (D), Toomey (R), Holden (D), Coyne (D), Goodling (R), Mascara (D), Hoeffel (D), Fattah (D), Kanjorski (D)
Rhode Island	Kennedy (D), Weygand (D)
South Carolina	Clyburn (D), Spratt (D), Graham (R), Spence (R)
Texas	Green (D), Turner (D), Hinojosa (D), Frost (D), Sandlin (D), Gonzalez (D), Reyes (D), Lampson (D), Jackson-Lee (D), Rodriguez (D), Johnson (D), Bentsen (D), Ortiz (D)
Tennessee	Clement (D), Ford (D), Gordon (D), Tanner (D)
Vermont	Sanders (I)
Virginia	Goode (I), Boucher (D), Goodlatte (R), Moran (D), Pickett (D), Scott (D)
Washington	Baird (D), Inslee (D), Metcalf (R), McDermott (D), Dicks (D)
West Virginia	Rahall (D), Mollohan (D), Wise (D)
Wisconsin	Barrett (D), Sensenbrenner (R), Obey (D), Baldwin (D), Kleczka (D), Kind (D)