



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

March 12, 2007

Dear Friends:

We join with you today to offer our strong support for your efforts to exercise your right to organize and strengthen your voice at the workplace.

Fortunately, you are more than half-way through the organization process that will allow you to be represented by the United Auto Workers. It is our understanding that at this point more than 75-percent percent of you and your colleagues have signed the authorization card. Of course, there is still the important election vote set for this Saturday.

While it is great that you are now more than half-way toward representation, legislation we cosponsored and recently voted for would streamline the process in such a way that you could have already met your goal. The Employee Free Choice Act, HR 800, which the House of Representatives approved on March 1st, would allow the cards you signed, after review by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), to designate a union, in this case the UAW, as your official bargaining agent. HR 800 replaces the current two-step process that now requires 30-percent of employees to sign a card followed by an NLRB election with a simpler, fairer one step process by simply raising the requirement for signed authorization cards to a majority of employees.

The Employee Free Choice Act levels the playing field, and it protects and enhances employee bargaining rights. It provides a clear pathway for those who want to associate and form a labor union. The right to join a labor union is a basic right. The process that governs the way someone decides to join a union should be free of interference maneuvers aimed at subverting the union organizing process.

You can be sure that we will support your rights to impartially decide to join a union. And we will also continue to work for passage of the Employee Free Choice Act and other federal legislation that protects the rights of America's working families.

Sincerely,

Christopher H. Smith
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

Frank A. LoBiondo
MEMBER OF CONGRESS