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March 12, 2009

To: UWUA Local Union Presidents, National Executive Board Members
and National Staff

From: D. Michael Langford, National President

Subject: Campaign for Employee Free Choice Act

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The battle to win union rights for millions of hard working Americans is on. Our friends in Congress have introduced the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA) in the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate. And our corporate enemies have countered us by committing \$200 million in a propaganda campaign to defeat it.

Why has Big Business made defeating EFCA their number one priority? Because they do not want to have to sit down at the table as equals with their employees and negotiate for wages, benefits, and working conditions. It's as simple as that.

Corporations are spending \$200 million to try to convince the public that somehow EFCA is anti-democratic because it allows workers to form a union in their workplace when a majority has signed a union card. They say that this will take the right to a secret ballot vote away. Under the proposed legislation, workers get to choose the union formation process—elections or majority sign-up. What the Employee Free Choice Act *does prevent* is an employer manipulating the flawed system to influence the election outcome.

I ask you, since when did employers start defending our democratic rights in the workplace? When was the last time employees got to vote on their employer's compensation package, or whether or not their job should be outsourced?

The only workers who have democratic rights in the workplace are union members. That's because of the union contract. And that's why we need to help the working men and women in this country have a fair chance to join the Union ranks.

EFCA will help us organize, win better contracts, and make our country healthy again. That's why the UWUA has joined with the AFL-CIO to raise more money to get the message out about how EFCA is good for workers and good for America. We need to do our part to defeat the \$200 million corporate attack against the rights of working people to join and form unions without the fear of harassment from their employers. The National Union is contributing \$2.50 per member so the AFL-CIO can counter the corporate onslaught.

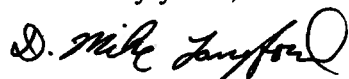
I'm asking you to also contribute to the AFL-CIO's campaign to get EFCA passed. If every UWUA local contributes a minimum of \$200, an additional \$45,000 for the campaign would be raised. If your local can send more, that would be even better. You can also help by contacting your Congressional representatives and asking them to support EFCA.

Please make your check out to: AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer. In the memo line of your check, note the **Turn Around America Media Fund.** Then mail it to:

Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO
Attn: Rosanna Farley
815 16th Street NW
Washington, DC 20006

We have the opportunity now to put union power in the hands of millions of working Americans. EFCA will do just that. Each and every one of us has to do whatever we can to see that we succeed.

Fraternally yours,



D. Michael Langford
National President

DML:rmf