

Communications

Elizabeth VanDerWoude, President



LOCAL 4250

Workers of America

(AFFILIATED WITH AFL-CIO)

3055 Glenwood - Dyer Road
Lynwood, IL 60411
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June 17, 2011

Brothers & Sisters:

A total of fifteen union leaders from the Chicago area signed onto letters opposing the Korea FTA which was faxed to congressional members Rush, Quigley, Davis and Gutierrez's state office and national offices Monday June 13. See the final letter attached (the same letter was sent to all four members of congress).

Late last week, we received a report from our lobbyist and other labor allies that Davis, Rush, and Gutierrez's are claiming that they haven't heard from labor and are under the impression that the Korea FTA isn't an important issue for labor - even though we know labor has reached out to them. We have also heard that Quigley is leaning in favor of voting for the FTA. Obviously these congressional members are being lobbied hard by business interests, corporate lobbyists and President Obama who supports this job-killing trade deal. Thankfully, the sign-on letter is a strong and impressive show of labors opposition that will certainly push Representatives into the right direction- but it's critical that they hear from YOU in the coming weeks.

Reaching out to these Representatives is key as we get closer to the vote. Please make follow up phones calls to Rush, Quigley, Davis, Gutierrez's offices (capitol switchboard 202-224-3121) and ask to speak with the MOC, their Chief of Staff or Trade Legislative Aid. Ask if they received and reviewed the union leader sign-on letter and once you've made clear that your union opposes the Korea FTA, ask for their official position.

In Unity There Is Strength:

Liz VanDerWoude, President CWA Local 4250
Steve Tisza, President CWA Local 4250 RMC



June 10, 2011

Honorable Danny Davis
 2159 Rayburn House Office Building
 Washington, DC 20515-1307

Honorable Representative Davis,

We, the undersigned organizations, are writing to reiterate our opposition to the Korea trade deal and **request your final position on the Korea trade deal.**

NAFTA-style trade deals have hurt working families, devastated the environment, bankrupted family farmers, exposed consumers to unsafe food, toys and other products, stifled economic development in poorer countries, and undermined our democratic laws by subjecting them to challenge in extra-constitutional tribunals. The majority of Americans reject this failed approach to global economic engagement.

Since NAFTA the state of Illinois has lost **272,017 manufacturing jobs - or 31.6 percent – of our good manufacturing jobs.** The government’s own numbers show that enacting the Korea trade deal will increase our overall trade deficit – costing even more precious U.S. jobs. The Economic Policy Institute says the deal **will cost at least 159,000 more jobs** – including in several key sectors of the economy – auto, electronics, textiles, transportation equipment, and metals products.

In our state of Illinois, there are **144,993 workers** employed in the auto, textiles, apparel, iron, metal products and other transportation and electronic equipment sectors—the seven key sectors that are **at risk** if the Korea trade deal is passed. Approval of the Korea trade deal effectively rolls the dice with the livelihoods of these hardworking people.

In recent months, most our organizations have contacted you, many of us on multiple occasions, voicing our opposition to the Korea trade deal; such is its importance to our members and

constituents. We sincerely urge you to fully consider the consequences of passing the Korea trade deal. Your constituents cannot afford another single NAFTA-style trade deal.

Please inform us of your final decision on this matter by responding to Bill Looby at the Illinois AFL-CIO (bill@ilaflcio.org or fax (217-492-2812), who will relay your response to other signatories.

Sincerely,

Michael T. Carrigan, President
Illinois AFL-CIO

Robert Boskovich, President
Iron Workers District Council of Chicago and Vicinity

Tom Villanova, President
Chicago & Cook Co. Building & Construction Trades
Council

Robert W Pierson, Business Manager and IEC Chairman
International Brotherhood Electrical Workers, Local 9

Jose Gudino, Sub-district Director
United Steel Workers of America

Phil Gruber, General Vice President, Midwest Territory
International Association of Machinists & Aerospace
Workers

Carl Rosen, President
Western Region of the United Electrical Workers

Elce Redmond, Organizer
South Austin Coalition

Liz VanDerWoude, President
Communications Workers of America, Local 4250

Steve Tisza, President
CWA Retired Members Chapter, Local 4250

Dean Apple, President/Business Manager
International Brotherhood Electrical Workers, Local 15

Steve Magruder, Business Manager
International Brotherhood Electrical Workers, Local 176

John Skermont, Business Manager
International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Local 1

Mark Guethle, Director of Governmental Affairs
International Union of Painters and Allied Trades,
District Council 30

Terrence P. Fitzmaurice, Business Manager
International Union of Painters and Allied Trades
District Council 14



June 10, 2011

Honorable Bobby Rush
 2268 Rayburn House Office Building
 Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Representative Rush,

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