

CWA

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Employee Free Choice in National Spotlight for Human Rights Day

December 4, 2008

CWA locals across the country will mark International Human Rights Day on Dec. 10 with a colorful reminder that human rights include workers' rights, starting with the right to form a union.

At worksites across the country, CWA members will receive flyers showing flags of more than 70 countries from Bahrain to Mongolia, from Thailand to South Africa -- all nations where the law provides a fair way for workers to organize unions without facing campaigns of fear and intimidation by employers.

The most notable country missing from the list? The United States. Which is why CWA is using International Human Rights Day to intensify the fight to pass the Employee Free Choice Act.

To download the flyer, [click here](#) (1.4MB, pdf).

"Two weeks ago, we won an historic election, replacing eight years of failed policies and disregard for the needs of working families with a once-in-a-generation leader," CWA President Larry Cohen said. "Now we have the ability to restore the middle class and put our country back on track for working families, but we won't succeed without hard work in the weeks and months to come."

Other AFL-CIO unions, as well as Change to Win unions, are joining CWA for the day of leafleting Wednesday, one of many Employee Free Choice actions members can join in the near future. The flyers urge people to call their senators to ask them to support the bill, which would restore organizing and collective bargaining



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rights that employers, lawmakers and courts have eroded for years.

"We need to keep the Employee Free Choice Act at the top of the agenda by generating thousands of calls to the U.S. Senate," Cohen said.

The U.S. House passed the Employee Free Choice Act in 2007 and the bill is not expected to have any trouble in the 111th Congress. The showdown will be in the U.S. Senate, where Republicans used a filibuster earlier this year to keep the bill from coming to the floor for a vote.

In the Nov. 4 elections, unions helped elected seven new pro-worker Senators, bringing potential support for Employee Free Choice closer to the 60 needed to break a filibuster, however much work needs to be done to win the bipartisan backing needed to assure passage.

While the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and other anti-union organizations are pouring tens of millions of dollars into campaigns to defeat the Employee Free Choice Act, Cohen reminded CWA members that unions have something better than money.

"We have you," he said. "We have tens of thousands of members and their families who are ready to roll up their sleeves and put on their sneakers and get to work. On Nov. 4, we saw what millions of ordinary Americans coming together can accomplish. And as long as we carry that spirit and determination forward, it doesn't matter how deep the Chamber's pockets are."

The following CWA locals have ordered flyers and indicated they plan to participate in the Dec. 10 activities:

District 1:

1031, 1032, 1037, 1039, 1040, 1051, 1060, 1077, 1079, 1080, 1086, 1102, 1104, 1109, 1113, 1118, 1120, 1122, 1126, 1133, 1168, 1170, 1180, 1298, 1365, 1701, 14199, 31167, 51011, 51016, 51017, 51019, 51024, 81201, 81254, 81320, 81380 and 81455

District 2:

2001, 2003, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2100, 2106, 2107, 2201, 2202, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2222, 2252, 2275, 2336, 2382, 82161 and 82162

District 3:

3102, 3104, 3108, 3109, 3110, 3112, 3113, 3122, 3178, 3179, 3180, 3204, 3212, 3215, 3218, 3250, 3263, 3317, 3402, 3403, 3404, 3406, 3407, 3410, 3411, 3412, 3414, 3511, 3517, 3519, 3603, 3605, 3611, 3716, 3805, 3806, 3808, 3905, 3950, 23086, 23093, 33225, 83718 and 83761

District 4:

4008, 4009, 4025, 4032, 4034, 4040, 4090, 4103, 4108, 4123, 4202, 4216, 4217, 4250, 4252, 4300, 4302, 4310, 4319, 4320, 4321, 4325, 4340, 4371, 4401, 4527, 4603, 4611, 4620, 4621, 4622, 4630, 4671, 4773, 4780, 4900, 4998, 14430, 24046, 34043, 54043, 84707, 84717, 84727, 84755, 84800, 84901 and 84981

District 6:

6001, 6007, 6009, 6012, 6015, 6016, 6110, 6113, 6118, 6127, 6128, 6137,

6139, 6143, 6151, 6171, 6200, 6210, 6214, 6215, 6222, 6300, 6301, 6312, 6313, 6314, 6316, 6327, 6350, 6355, 6360, 6373, 6377, 6401, 6402, 6407, 6450, 6502, 6503, 6505, 6507, 6508, 6733, 36047, 86023, 86122, 86780 and 86782

District 7:

7011, 7019, 7037, 7076, 7103, 7170, 7200, 7201, 7250, 7470, 7603, 7750, 7803, 7804, 7818, 7901, 14705, 14752, 37082, 37083, 57045 and 87140

District 9:

9000, 9119, 9333, 9404, 9410, 9412, 9413, 9415, 9416, 9417, 9421, 9431, 9432, 9503, 9510, 9511, 9573, 9575, 9586, 9588, 14827, 29025, 29098, 29099, 59051, 59054 and 59057

District 13: 13100, 13101, 13500, 13550, 13570, 13571, 13572, 13573 and 13590

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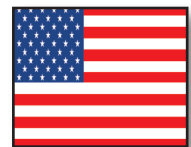
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- Mongolia
- Morocco
- Nepal
- Netherlands
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua
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- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Saint Kitts Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent Grenadines
- Samoa
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- South Africa
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Thailand
- Trinidad & Tobago
- Turkey
- United Kingdom
- Uruguay



**Over 70 countries provide a fair way
for workers to form a union.**

**The United States
isn't one of them.**

In order to organize with CWA or other unions, U.S. workers endure an undemocratic election process that allows too many employers to run aggressive and intimidating anti-union campaigns prior to the vote. But across the globe, other nations' labor laws or practices allow workers to form unions and negotiate with employers, without navigating this adversarial process.*

America's Workers Shouldn't Have to Stand Alone

Call your Senators today at 202-224-3121. Ask them to support the Employee Free Choice Act.

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA — INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DAY, DEC. 10, 2008

*Based on research conducted by American Rights at Work, August 2008.