INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

SEAN M. O'BRIEN General President

25 Louisiana Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20001



FRED E. ZUCKERMAN

General Secretary-Treasurer 202-624-6800 www.teamster.org

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Dear Representative,

On behalf of the 1.2 million members of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, I am writing to urge you to become an original co-sponsor of the bipartisan Richard L. Trumka Protecting the Right to Organize Act (PRO Act) before its introduction in the coming weeks.

Unions are essential to rebuilding the middle class. On average, a union worker earns over 10% more than a non-union worker. In the private-sector, workers represented by a union are 28% more likely to be offered health insurance through work, and nearly six times as likely to have defined-benefit pensions.

Under current law, employers routinely violate the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) without repercussions and block workers' ability to exercise their right to bargain for fair wages and safe working conditions. The PRO Act would enact meaningful, enforceable penalties on employers who break the law. The bill would ensure that union elections are fair by prohibiting employers from using coercive activities like captive audience meetings. The PRO Act establishes a process for mediation and arbitration to stop stalling tactics at the bargaining table and help parties achieve a first contract. The bill also addresses rampant intentional misclassification and ensures that misclassified workers are not deprived of their right to form a union under the NLRA.

More workers are forming unions than ever before and yet, we continue to face challenges around income inequality and rising healthcare prices, while corporations take advantage of workers in the name of maximizing profits. American workers need the PRO Act to solidify the gains they have made and to fight back against systemic inequalities.

I urge you to become an original cosponsor today. To join the bill, please contact Dhrtvan Sherman (<u>Dhrtvan.Sherman@mail.house.gov</u>) and Kyle DeCant (<u>Kyle.DeCant@mail.house.gov</u>) for more information.

Thank you,

Sean M. O'Brien General President