

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS



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LEGISLATIVE ALERT!

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Dear Senator:

On behalf of the AFL-CIO, I am writing to urge you to vote for cloture on the American Jobs Act (S. 1660). America is facing the worst jobs crisis since the Great Depression, and it is critical that our elected officials address this crisis with at least as much urgency as they exhibited in negotiating an increase in the debt ceiling this summer, and on a scale that is equal to the size of the problem. The American Jobs Act is a critical first step towards putting America back to work.

Some senators have expressed concerns about specific provisions in the American Jobs Act, but today's vote is not an endorsement of every proposal contained in the bill. Rather, it is a signal to the American people that Congress is determined to begin debate on a bill whose sole purpose is ending the jobs crisis that has devastated so many of our communities.

The American Jobs Act would create nearly 2 million jobs and prevent 280,000 teachers from losing their jobs, according to Moody's Analytics. It would make immediate investments in rebuilding and upgrading America's highways, transit, rail, airports, bridges, ports, schools and communications and energy infrastructure. And it would prevent five million Americans from losing their unemployment benefits at the end of this year. The American Jobs Act would not only put millions of Americans back to work, it would help lay the foundation for long-term economic growth and prosperity.

With millions of Americans unemployed or underemployed, we urge the Senate to stop playing partisan games and pass the American Jobs Act.

Sincerely,

William Samuel, Director
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT