

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS



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LEGISLATIVE ALERT!

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March 30, 2011

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the AFL-CIO, **I urge you to vote for the LaTourette/Costello amendment to the FAA reauthorization bill - HR 658.** This amendment would reverse democratic union election procedures recently issued by the National Mediation Board (NMB) under the Railway Labor Act (RLA).

The new NMB rule makes clear that representation elections under the RLA will be decided simply on whether a majority of the votes cast are for or against the union. This may seem like common sense, but under the previous NMB rule all workers who did not cast a ballot were counted as voting against the union. This rule rightly determines the outcome of representation elections in the same manner as elections for the U.S. President, Congress and other civil elections.

For too long, the deck has been stacked against workers who simply want to exercise their basic right to decide whether or not to be represented by a union. We urge you to vote for this amendment and keep elections fair, simple and democratic for workers trying to exercise their right to organize under the Railway Labor Act.

Sincerely,

William Samuel, Director
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT