



Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO

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An AFL-CIO "Union City"

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June 11, 2008

Dear Prince George's County Elected Official:

Organized Labor and the Democratic Party have by tradition supported each other over the last 72 years. In the past several months, however, this has not been the case in Prince George's County. Labor has come under attack by Prince George's County Democratic Party leadership in the form of disparaging statements made by the Chair and Vice Chair of the County Democratic Central Committee. This has disappointed and angered the members of the labor community. Also disappointing is the lack of public support, since October of last year, from other elected officials in the County. Many of you have been endorsed and been given money and support by labor unions. You reached out to Labor when you needed support and labor faithfully provided that support. Unfortunately, it appears that we cannot expect that support to be reciprocal.

2008 being a Presidential Election year, the Democratic Party needs all of its supporters to win, including organized labor. With the situation as it now stands, however, we in labor cannot provide support without the development of a new relationship with all of the elected officials of Prince George's County- a relationship based on mutual regard and respect and based on interests in bettering the lives of workers and their families.

We are proposing a new contract between labor and elected officials in the County. Specifically we want:

- Support from you to help us empower workers in our unions and working people without unions
- Public union employees protected from bearing the burden of balancing the budget on their backs
- Support for legislation to create a State Labor Relations Board for schools system employees to appeal decisions to instead of the State Board of Education which has been problematic
- Support for legislation which gives Metro bus drivers protection from assault in the County
- Support for Community Benefit Agreements which would require local hiring, training programs, labor peace and project labor agreements on all publicly funded economic development projects in the County

BRINGING LABOR TOGETHER SINCE 1896

- Consultation and real input into appointments to boards & commissions in the County that have a direct impact on labor and on the economic, educational and social development of the County
- Public acknowledgment that the actions of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Prince George's County Democratic Central Committee were wrong and an insult to organized labor and a commitment that, for the sake of the Party, they should agree not to run for re-election in September of 2008.

Until the elected officials of the County sign on to this Progressive Labor Partnership Contract, the affiliates of the Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO will continue to refuse requests for any and all support from those elected officials who refuse to support us.

The significance of Labor's role in the County and in the Party must be acknowledged. We are interested in a meaningful relationship between labor and the Democratic Party. We are asking that you demonstrate your interest in restoring this relationship by signing below.

Sincerely,

Joslyn N. Williams

President for the entire MWC Board:

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Lou Cernak, IUOE 99

Sonny Reed, SEIU 400

Dan Dyer, OPEIU Local 2

Vance Ayres, Wash Bldg/Construction Trades Council

John Boardman, UNITE/HERE

Carl Goldman, AFSCME Council 26

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Doris Reed, ASASP

Sandra Falwell, DCNA

Faith Jones, ACE/AFSCME 2230

Nathan Saunders, WTU Local 6

Fred Allen, GCC/IBT

I support the above-described Contract with Labor _____

Date _____

Fax # 202-974-8152, Attention: Rick Powell