



BOB KING, President

DENNIS WILLIAMS, Secretary-Treasurer

VICE PRESIDENTS: JOE ASHTON • CINDY ESTRADA • GENERAL HOLIEFIELD • JIMMY SETTLES

March 30, 2011

IN REPLY REFER TO

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Dear Representative:

The House is scheduled to consider H.R. 658, the FAA Reauthorization and Reform Act of 2011, this week. Included in the bill is a provision that would overturn a rule recently issued by the National Mediation Board (NMB) allowing a majority of those voting in an aviation or rail union election to decide the outcome of the election. Representatives Steve LaTourette and Jerry Costello are expected to offer an amendment that would remove this provision and protect the democratic election rule issued by the NMB. The UAW urges you to vote for the LaTourette-Costello amendment.

The LaTourette-Costello amendment simply ensures that “majority rules” in an election for union representation in the rail and airline industry under the Railway Labor Act (RLA), as it does in union elections among workers in all other industries and, in fact, in all other elections in the United State. The provision in the underlying bill would reinstate the undemocratic practice whereby a person who does not cast a vote in an RLA election is counted as a vote against the union.

We urge you to vote for the LaTourette-Costello amendment to keep elections simple and democratic for workers trying to exercise their right to bargaining collectively under the Railway Labor Act.

Sincerely,

Barbara Somson
Legislative Director

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