



## International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers

### ***IAM Supports Brown/Michaud TRADE ACT: Time for a New Model***

#### **Trade Reform, Accountability, Development and Employment (TRADE) Act**

The IAM believes that in order for the global economy to work, it must work for the world's workers. That is why we have led the opposition to NAFTA, and the trade agreements with Columbia, Peru, South Korea, and Panama. Each and every one of these trade agreements fails to recognize and effectively enforce fundamental human rights, like the basic right to form a union.

The IAM has called for the incorporation of human rights in all trade agreements, as well as effective mechanisms to enforce these rights. We have also called for a moratorium of all future trade agreements and most importantly, a timeout to force policymakers to take a hard look at how the current NAFTA-model is destroying jobs and our members' lives. We are witness to the tragedy that occurred when Maytag left Galesburg, Illinois for Mexico and when Freightliner turned its back on so many of the workers that made it such a success.

We want policy makers to truly understand how the current framework costs even more jobs as companies at home transfer production and technology to other countries. We also want them to understand how the threat of moving jobs unfairly distorts the collective bargaining process and is used to crush organizing efforts. We also want lawmakers to realize that the products, components, and services that are performed elsewhere can and do have major and significant safety and quality implications for consumers here at home. Indeed, the issue of product safety extends far beyond toys and tires.

The IAM believes that an entirely new model for trade and the global economy is critical if we are to regain our economic strength in the World. The first step is to throw out the old, failed model. The second step is to begin to craft a new model that is based on fairness and that will result in helping, not devastating, workers here at home.

Senator Brown and Congressman Michaud understand that the old way of negotiating trade agreements is an abysmal failure and that we need a new model. Together, they have introduced, the TRADE (*Trade Reform, Accountability, Development and Employment*) Act. This Bill would accomplish four major objectives:

- 1. Stops negotiations on all new trade agreements.**
- 2. Mandates a comprehensive review of all past trade agreements, documenting the massive loss of jobs that have occurred, and defines what constitutes a trade agreement beneficial to all Americans.**
- 3. Incorporates real and meaningful international labor standards as provided by the International Labor Organization Conventions into the core of any trade agreement.**
- 4. Creates meaningful enforcement for violators of international labor, environmental, and public health standards.**

The TRADE Act represents a fresh new start to replacing the failed trade model that continues to destroy jobs, lives, and communities. Urge your Representative/Senator to sign on as an original cosponsor.