**District 2**

**Michael Bolton**  
District Director

**Arthur Kroll**  
Assistant to the Director

March 23, 2009

To: All Wisconsin Cities, Villages, Towns and Townships Where USW Members Live or Work

Dear Friend:

As you are aware, Congress recently passed the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which pledges nearly \$900 billion to help bolster our nation's sagging economy. Of that amount, \$150 billion will be invested in improving our nation's crumbling infrastructure. Investing that kind of money for repairing our roads and bridges will create many new jobs in our state and its communities. Jobs that are needed now, with unemployment nearing double digits.

Included in the Act is language that closes loopholes in often ignored "Buy American" legislation that has been the law in our country for over 70 years. The new language directs state, county and local governments to buy American made goods and services for all projects funded with stimulus (taxpayer) money. There are certain cases that will allow governments to seek a waiver from the "Buy American" provisions. However, the bill's intent is to encourage the purchase of American made goods to get our manufacturing sector back to work again.

Attached you will find a copy of a Buy American Resolution that the United Steelworkers are asking state, county and local governments to pass in support of the legislation. While it is non-binding, the resolution acknowledges the importance of buying locally, where money will be spent to spur economic growth and create additional jobs. It just doesn't make sense to use American taxpayer dollars to support steel mills in China, cement foundries in Mexico, or construction equipment producers in Japan.

A member of the United Steelworkers, who resides or works within your community, will be contacting you to ask for your support of the resolution. We ask that you pass it on to your town council for a vote at an upcoming meeting. The Steelworkers thank you for your consideration in this matter and look forward to discussing it with you.

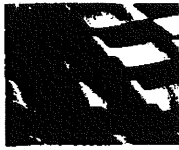
Sincerely,

Michael H. Bolton, Director  
USW District 2  
AFL-CIO-CLC

**United Steel, Paper and Forestry, Rubber, Manufacturing, Energy, Allied Industrial and Service Workers International Union**

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# 2009 Resolution on the Spending of Federal Economic Renewal Grants to

( \_\_\_\_\_ )



**WHEREAS**, the economic downturn is having a critical impact on everyday Americans who are struggling to maintain or find jobs in an increasingly difficult environment, and

**WHEREAS**, those same Americans are the taxpayers that provide the revenue needed to operate essential government services, and

**WHEREAS**, Congress and President Obama are planning a taxpayer-sponsored economic recovery package that will provide billions of dollars to help economically devastated cities and states immediately provide jobs to millions of out-of-work Americans through considerable infrastructure rebuilding, green energy projects and other projects that will require manufactured components, and

**WHEREAS**, our taxpayer dollars should be spent to maximize the creation of American jobs and restoring the economic vitality of our communities, and

**WHEREAS**, any domestically produced products that are purchased with economic recovery plan monies will immediately help struggling American families and will help stabilize our greater economy, and

**WHEREAS**, any economic recovery plan spending should – to every extent possible – include a commitment from ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) to buy materials, goods and services for projects from companies that are produced within the United States, thus employing the very workers that pay the taxes for the economic recovery plan spending in the first place.

**THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT**, we the undersigned will work to maximize the creation of American jobs and restoring economic growth and opportunity by spending economic recovery plan funds on products and services that both create jobs and help keep Americans employed.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, we commit to purchasing only products and services that are made or performed in the United States of America whenever and wherever possible with any economic recovery monies provided to ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) by the American taxpayers, AND

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT**, as legislators of ( \_\_\_\_\_ ), we commit to publish any requests to waive these procurement priorities so as to give American workers and producers the opportunity to identify and provide the American products and services that will maximize the success of our nation's economic recovery program.

_____ Signature	_____ Printed Name	_____ Date
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