



# LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA

September 17, 2007

U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), I am asking for your support of the "James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2007" being introduced by Representatives Maloney, Nadler and Fossella this week. The Laborers' commend Representatives Maloney, Nadler and Fossella for their hard work in crafting a suitable bipartisan solution to help the workers who got sick while selflessly responding to the 9/11 attack.

After the September 11, 2001 attack on World Trade Center (WTC), over 4,000 of our union members worked on rescue, recovery, and clean-up at the World Trade Center and surrounding buildings. Many had rushed to the scene immediately after the disaster to help and worked as volunteers in the frantic few days after the disaster to try to rescue any survivors. Now many of these workers have become ill with respiratory disease, mental health problems, and other health conditions as a result of this work and the failure of the health and safety agencies to properly protect them. Some of our members can no longer work and are suffering severe financial hardships.

Fortunately, Mount Sinai Hospital and other medical centers in the New York City area have been able to provide medical monitoring and treatment for these workers. This care has been supported by the federal government and some private philanthropy with over 3,000 LIUNA members who worked at the WTC having benefited from these services. Federal funding has been intermittent however, and there is no commitment that funding for these vital services will be continued.

Therefore, I ask you to support the "James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2007." This legislation will provide the comprehensive framework and funding needed to provide medical monitoring for these WTC workers and full medical treatment for those with WTC-related medical conditions. The Act will also enable the collection and analysis of these medical data in order to be able to track the health of these workers for many years. Finally, the Bill will provide compensation for those workers who have lost their jobs because they are disabled by a World Trade Center-related medical condition by reopening the victim compensation fund set up after September 11.

The health of many of our members has been endangered by their work in responding to this horrific terrorist attack on country. Our union believes that the federal government should be responsible for providing the medical monitoring and treatment for these workers. I urge you to support and contact the offices of Representative Maloney, Representative Nadler and Representative Fossella to sign on as a cosponsor of the "James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2007."

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

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General President

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