



# INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL ENGINEERS AFL-CIO & CLC

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November 12, 2008

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Hon. Harry Reid, Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-211, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

Hon. Nancy Pelosi, Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Reid and Speaker Pelosi,

The International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE) strongly supports President-elect Obama's call for a second Economic Stimulus package and urges Congress to pass one next week to address the Nation's precarious economic situation. This should be achieved through a consolidation of the previous good work of Chairman Obey (H.R. 7110, passed by the House) with the good work of Leader Reid and Chairman Byrd (S. 3604, filibustered in the Senate). Now that the voters have spoken loudly about the pressing need for swift action on the economy, we hope that Congress will work to resolve outstanding differences and redouble their efforts to get a bill to President Bush's desk as soon as possible.

We urge that the final bill address at least the following key issues:

- Extending unemployment benefits;
- Enhancing Medicaid and food assistance;
- Repairing America's aging infrastructure, including funds for the Army Corps of Engineers and national transportation projects;
- Providing urgent assistance to state and local governments;
- Fostering American energy independence, technological innovation, and scientific research, including funds for the Department of Energy and NASA.

All of the above important elements are already included in either H.R. 7110 or S. 3604. These bills should be passed and reconciled for President Bush to sign before the Holidays or, if vetoed, for President Obama to sign in January.

I thank you for your consideration and for your previous efforts in this regard. Should you have any questions, I, or IFPTE Legislative Director, Matt Biggs, can be reached at (202) 239-4880.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Junemann,  
President

Cc: Hon. David Obey  
Hon. Robert Byrd