



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

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IFPTE Calls for Change in Senate Leadership **Senate majority critical to moving a pro-worker family agenda**

WASHINGTON, DC – The International Federation of Professional & Technical Engineers (IFPTE), which has and continues to be bipartisan in endorsing labor-friendly candidates from both political parties, is reminding and urging IFPTE members to vote not only for a new President but also for new Senate leadership to begin the healing process America so urgently needs. In this regard, IFPTE President, Paul Shearon, issued the following statement:

“IFPTE represents more than 90,000 North American workers with a wide range of political viewpoints ranging the full gamut from conservative to progressive, so our political activities are narrowly focused on helping working people and their families. This year, however, the situation is so dire and the stakes so high that we must speak out against Trumpism in its entirety, as it is causing grave harm to the health and economic security of millions of working families. Because President Trump has failed so catastrophically and because Senate Republican leaders have betrayed their values and cynically succumbed to a pandemic of hypocrisy and cowardice, IFPTE is calling on Americans not only to vote for a new President but also to vote for new Senate leadership. Majority Leader McConnell can no longer be permitted to control the Senate agenda, as he has proven time and time again that he will block worker-friendly legislation from being considered while allowing bills and judicial and political nominees to the detriment of workers to move through the Senate.”

“To avoid additional McConnell gridlock or government shutdowns and to ensure passage of the critical budgets and legislation urgently needed to combat COVID and to restore a healthy economy, IFPTE believes that we must elect enough Democratic Senators to flip the majority. Our health, our jobs, and, for some of us, even our lives depend on it.”

During the current 116th Congress, Majority Leader McConnell and the Republican Senate majority have:

- Repeatedly supported efforts to eliminate current protections for Americans with pre-existing health conditions, with no proposed remedy after 10 years of false promises;
- Refused to extend expanded employment benefits or to provide urgently needed support for essential state and local workers on the COVID front lines;
- Chose to push through anti-worker, pro-corporate supreme court appointments, leading to several damaging Supreme Court decisions, including the Janus decision rendering all state and local governments across the nation as right-to-work for less employers;
- Pushed through huge tax cuts for Wall Street billionaires while raising taxes on middle-class Americans focusing the burden on blue states;

- Weakened our military by remaining silent while President Trump cozied up to our enemies in Russia and North Korea, undercut and betrayed our allies, belittled the sacrifices of our men and women in uniform, and transferred DoD funds (not money from Mexico) to build trivial portions of a delusional and ineffective wall;
- Failed to pass Appropriations bills under regular order to fund the government, repeatedly forcing harmful Continuing Resolutions and government shutdowns;
- Declined to take legislative action to remedy many overtly illegal and divisive Executive Orders, including one just last week, aimed at making thousands of civil servants at-will employees who could be fired just as the President leaves office;
- Denied the clear impact of climate change, including hurricanes and rising sea levels along the Gulf and East coasts and droughts throughout the West, and politicized disaster relief, undermining relief to California for catastrophic wildfires;
- Ignored ICE's jailing and isolation of immigrant children for the alleged sins of their parents, abandoning any commitment to family values or common decency.

IFPTE has issued its [Congressional recommendations](#), including Senate candidates. In addition to those, IFPTE also endorses:

- Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff (two races in Georgia)
- Theresa Greenfield (Iowa)
- Barbara Bollier (Kansas)
- Sara Gideon (Maine)
- Steve Bullock (Montana)
- Cal Cunningham (North Carolina)
- Jaime Harrison (South Carolina)
- MJ Hegar (Texas)

IFPTE is an AFL-CIO and CLC affiliated labor union representing more than 90,000 workers in Canada and the United States.

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