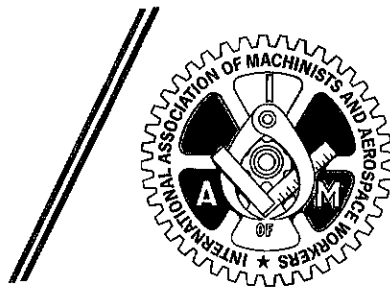


**International  
Association of  
Machinists and  
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place  
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-2687

Area Code 301  
967-4500



OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

GL2 – Legislative  
July 13, 2012  
Subj: August 11 –  
“Workers Stand for America” Rally

To: All Local Lodges and District Lodges in Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey,  
North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Our most basic values: our society, our economy, and our politics have become skewed beyond recognition – geared almost entirely for the well-being of the top one percent, while the broad middle class sinks further toward joining the growing ranks of the working poor. This is not acceptable in the nation that was built on generations of labor. This is not the America we want. That is why on August 11, we will gather in Philadelphia to stand for the America we want – an America that works for all working men and women.

The August 11 event, the “Workers Stand for America” Rally, will be a central feature of a larger campaign to serve notice to politicians and leaders of all political parties and the one percent that the recovery is not reaching working people. The event will center on a Workers’ Bill of Rights. The Bill of Rights will be broad in scope and embody many of the concepts discussed by Franklin D. Roosevelt in his final inaugural address. It is my hope that this Workers’ Bill can be used as a guide for working people when they vote in November. Most importantly however, we want the Bill of Rights to be used to hold elected leaders accountable once in office.

I am writing to ask you to turn out members for the “Workers Stand for America” Rally. The Rally will begin at approximately 11 a.m. and additional details are attached. We have ample evidence in Wisconsin, Ohio, and elsewhere of what happens when representatives of the one percent get control. Reflect on the consequences if this election cycle does not go in favor of the working person, and consider this the kickoff to our grassroots activities for the season. I am asking all of you to make this event a success. With the understanding that this is a convention year, we are encouraging people to just make this a day trip to minimize costs. Please contact Matthew McKinnon at (301) 967-4575 or [mmckinnon@iamaw.org](mailto:mmckinnon@iamaw.org) for further details and specific instructions.

I want a strong IAM presence on August 11, and I know I can count on you.

With best wishes, I am

Fraternally yours,

R. Thomas Buffenbarger  
International President

RTB/jcs  
Attachments

## **August 11, 2012 “Workers Stand for America” in Philadelphia**

On August 11, a cross section of working Americans will come to Philadelphia to stand up for the middle class and urge all Americans, especially elected officials, to stand with us.

The event will be a central feature of a larger campaign to serve notice to political leaders and the one percent that the recovery is not reaching working people. A Workers’ Bill of Rights will be presented, taking our cue from Franklin D. Roosevelt’s final inaugural address. The bill of rights will be broad in scope and touch the lives of every American. The event will take place before both parties’ conventions, and the intent is to tell both republicans and Democrats that we want an America that works for everyone. Through traditional media and social media we will spread the message widely and ask working people from all sectors and walks of life and elected officials to sign the Bill of Rights. Equally important, we want the principles to guide working people when they vote in November, and to hold elected leaders accountable once in office.

### **IAMAW Summit contacts:**

Matthew McKinnon, Director IAMAW Legislative and Political Action, [mmckinnon@iamaw.org](mailto:mmckinnon@iamaw.org), (301) 967-4575

**Summit name/theme:** “Workers Stand for America”

### **Location:**

**Eakins Oval:** Located at the end of the Ben Franklin Parkway, Eakins Oval in a grass covered, tree shaded area. The area can accommodate 20,000 – 30,000 people.

### **Event type:**

- (1) **March followed by Outdoor Rally:** participants would gather at *Logan Square*, which is .7 of a mile walk to Eakins Oval.
- (2) **Modified March followed by Outdoor Rally:** Participants would park buses along the Ben Franklin Parkway from *Logan Square* to Eakins Oval. Different Unions would be parked together. Participants parked by *Logan Square* would begin proceeding toward Eakins Oval, as those participants pass the buses of other unions, those unions would join in the march. The march could be led by a pipe band and would end at Eakins Oval.
- (3) **Outdoor rally:** Participants would gather at Eakins Oval.

### **Event time:**

- (1) 11 a.m. based on participation within a 5 hour radius
- (2) 5 Hour Radius:

The IAM will be sending letters announcing the summit to all members. Realistically, the IAM is expecting the most participation from members and local unions with a 5 hour radius of Philadelphia.

### **Satellite locations:**

There has been much discussion regarding whether there will be rallies held outside of Philadelphia. A work group will be investigating whether this is feasible and report back their recommendations. There are plans to offer a live feed/webcast from the main event. This will be taken into consideration by the work group to determine the best way to proceed.

### **Transportation:**

- **Buses:** To ensure that enough parking is available, we ask that all incoming buses from your group, along with their approximate arrival time, be reported to transportation captain Robert Gormley at [bgormley@ibew98.org](mailto:bgormley@ibew98.org) or (215) 906-2023. The bus drop off area will be at 26th Street and the Ben Franklin Parkway, in front of the Philadelphia Art Museum. After drop off, buses will be parked at the Mann Music Center parking lot. Please attempt to schedule bus drop offs no later than 9:30 a.m.
- **30<sup>th</sup> Street Train Station:** The train station is approximately a 10-15 minute walk from Eakins Oval.

**Website:** [www.workerstandforamerica.com](http://www.workerstandforamerica.com) is up and running. Currently there is a video teaser for the event on the page. As soon as the press conference concludes, the site will be updated with all available information regarding the event, and individuals will be able to view and sign the Bill of Rights online.

### **Apparel:**

The IAM Communications Department is working on an event T-Shirt. It should be available at the march.

### **Platform-Bill of Rights:**

The participating unions agreed to a unified worker bill of rights.

### **Work Groups:**

Work groups are up and running. Listed below are the immediate groups and others may present themselves as we move forward. Please contact us if you have any interest in the groups below.

1. Security: marshals, security, police, medical
2. Parade: determine if feasible, establish route
3. Event Logistics: drop off, pick up and parking for buses, food and drink, restroom facilities, audio-visual
4. Messaging and Media: theme, message, logos, website, advertising, press
5. Platform-Bill of Rights: message, content, how to deliver
6. Event Agenda: speakers, speaker message, entertainment
7. Satellite Locations: determine feasibility, locations, program
8. Funds and Accounting: secure funding determines expense, approve expenditures
9. Turnout: determine and monitor commitments



**WORKERS  
STAND FOR  
AMERICA**

**AUGUST 11**

**TWITTER:**

[@WORKERS](#)

**FACEBOOK:**

[FACEBOOK.COM/WORKERS](#)

**WEBSITE:**

[WWW.WORKERS.ORG](#)

## **WORKERS STAND FOR AMERICA**

On August 11, a cross section of working Americans will join together in Philadelphia to stand up for a ladder to the middle class for all and urge elected officials and leaders from both parties and every part of our nation to stand with us.

The idea behind this event goes to our most basic values: our society, our economy and our politics have become skewed beyond recognition – geared almost entirely for the well-being of the top one percent while everyone else is left behind. This is not acceptable in the nation that was built on generations of labor. This is not the America for which many among us fought. And it's certainly not the America we want.

We choose to assemble in Philadelphia because it is there that the words "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" changed the world. It is Philadelphia that was the birthplace of the Constitution of the United States, the model for democracies everywhere. It is in Philadelphia that the Bill of Rights, the most practical enumeration of fundamental human values, was adopted. We choose Philadelphia because it is time for a workers' bill of rights.

On August 11, we will articulate and demand exactly that. Through media of every form, we will deliver the message to working families throughout America and put public officials on notice that working people are tired of being ignored.

We will not accomplish everything in one day or with one event. We are timing this event at the beginning of a critical election season, preceding both the Republican and Democratic National Conventions in order to send a broad, unmistakable message: True economic recovery in America is not measured by the stock market or the indicators that track wealth. It is measured by the existence of good jobs and opportunity for all. And by that measure, America is failing.

In 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt sounded the call for a Second Bill of Rights. We believe the time is right to build on FDR's vision. Working Americans in the 21<sup>st</sup> century need a Workers Bill of Rights to include:

**The Right to Full Employment**

**The Right to Full Participation in the Electoral Process**

**The Right to a Voice at Work**

**The Right to a Quality Education**

**Right to a Baseline Social Safety Net**

We will be asking all Americans to support these rights with their signature, either on paper or electronically, including the President of the United States. The wording may change before we launch the media campaign, and more substance will be added, but this is the essence of the message.