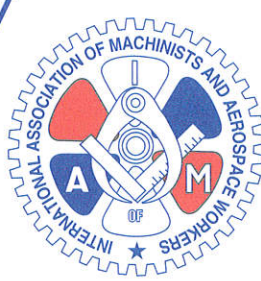
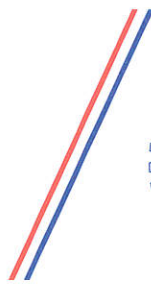


**International  
Association of  
Machinists and  
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place  
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-2687

Area Code 301  
967-4500



OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

January 11, 2017

Dear Representative,

**I am writing to strongly condemn the anti-federal worker PAGE Act and urge your opposition to this disgraceful legislation.** Like the infamous Page Act of 1875 that classified all Asians as “undesirable” and prohibited their entry into the United States, the current bill unjustly targets a specific group of people for discriminatory and punitive treatment and betrays our fundamental American values of decency, opportunity, and fairness.

The proposed legislation will undermine the civil service system and make federal employment subject to the corrupt cronyism of political bosses demanding ideological loyalty. According to the bill, all new hires would become “at will” employees serving at the whim of their managers or the political appointees overseeing federal agencies. Due process for an aggrieved employee would be sharply reduced. Federal worker pay increases would be subject to a highly subjective rating system that would foster politically discriminatory and disparate treatment.

Additionally, the PAGE Act seeks to destroy federal employee unions and their ability to adequately fulfill their legally required duty of fair representation responsibility; a legal obligation that federal employee unions are required to represent all workers in a bargaining unit regardless of whether a worker pays union dues. By law federal employee unions cannot seek payment from a nonmember for representational activities. Nor can federal employee unions use official time for union business or political activity. The falsehood that tax dollars are used to support union activity must be put to rest and exposed as the lie that it is.

The Machinists Union represents thousands of dedicated federal workers who are proud of the essential services that they provide to our Nation. That the PAGE Act will undermine the moral of our federal workforce is an understatement. A Congress that continually gives tax breaks to the wealthy and to multinational corporations cannot make federal workers scapegoats for its negligence in addressing the real and pressing needs of working families. I urge your rejection of this un-American legislation.

Please contact Legislative Director Hasan Solomon at (202) 420-5902 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Robert Martinez, Jr.  
International President