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

October 8, 2019

Dear Representative,

On behalf of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, I urge you to co-sponsor the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act (H.R. 2474), sponsored by Education and Labor Committee Chairman Bobby Scott (D-VA). For far too long, American workers have been denied the right to freely form unions without the threat of company intimidation or interference. This bill would strengthen protections for employees that engage in collective action and facilitate a process where workers and management can reach a first agreement in a reasonable amount of time. In addition, the legislation outlines penalties for employers who break the law.

The PRO Act is a vitally important piece of legislation that strengthens federal laws and protect workers' right to organize a union and bargain for higher wages and better benefits. Furthermore, the bill will prohibit employers from permanently replacing employees who strike and removes limitations on secondary strikes. Strikes are always the last resort for workers who want to improve wages and working conditions, and allowing employees to participate in secondary strikes returns their First Amendment rights back to workers.

The right to organize a union at work has been under constant attack and it's a shame we now need legislation to reinforce the current laws in place. Interfering with a union election is a crime and this new bill would provide meaningful and timely remedies when employers break the law. When it comes to representation and collective bargaining, the bill will abolish right to work laws - laws that have benefitted billionaires and special interest groups instead of workers. The PRO Act is a bill that is long overdue in granting unions their rights under the law as intended by the original NLRA.

For all of these reasons, I urge you to support the PRO Act and vote YES on this bill. For more information, please contact Hasan Solomon at hsolomon@iamaw.org or 301-967-4575.

Thank you,

Robert Martinez, Jr.

International President