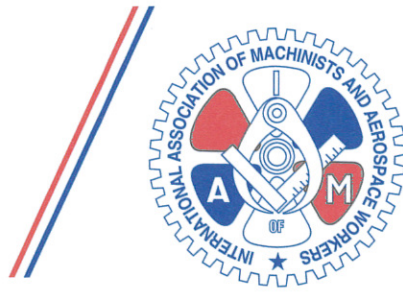


**International  
Association of  
Machinists and  
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place  
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-2687

Area Code 301  
967-4500



OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

February 25, 2021

Dear Representative,

On behalf of 600,000 active and retired members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM), I applaud President Biden, Speaker Pelosi and Leader Schumer for including numerous provisions in the American Rescue Plan recovery package which will greatly help IAM members and workers nationwide through this difficult time. **I write to strongly urge you to vote "Yes" on the American Rescue Plan recovery package and oppose any amendments to remove or weaken any of its worker-friendly provisions.**

The American Rescue Plan contains a number of key recovery provisions that the Machinists Union has supported since the outbreak of the deadly virus to help struggling workers nationwide. The package contains a third round of much needed stimulus checks to help struggling families stay afloat while helping prime the pump of the U.S. economy. Given the sheer number of unemployed workers and uncertainty regarding when their jobs will return, the bill rightly increases the federal unemployment benefit to \$400 per week for an additional six months and provides COBRA subsidies to help laid off workers remain on their employer-sponsored health insurance plans.

The recovery package also includes vitally important aid to struggling industries which will allow employers to avoid furloughs and call back workers who have already been laid off. The package includes an extension of the very successful airline Payroll Support Program (PSP) which will help keep tens of thousands of our members employed as the air travel industry gets back on its feet. The package also includes the Aviation Manufacturing Jobs Protection Act which will help employers keep aerospace manufacturing workers on their payrolls and avoid additional furloughs. In addition, the package includes desperately needed funding for Amtrak and transit agencies to return furloughed workers to Amtrak and restore transit service to levels that will prevent future furloughs. These provisions will not only directly benefit tens of thousands of our members, but will ensure that these struggling industries are able to efficiently recover and restore transportation services to millions of Americans every day.

We also applaud the inclusion of the Butch Lewis Emergency Pension Plan Relief Act. This long-overdue pension relief legislation would help bolster the health of troubled multiemployer pension plans while protecting the earned benefits of retirees and active participants. The legislation will also serve to protect the integrity of healthy multiemployer plans and the strengthen the pension system overall.

In addition, we applaud lawmakers for including indispensable provisions to help our nation quickly recover from the public health and economic impacts of this historic pandemic. These provisions include relief funding for state and local governments, education funding to help schools safely return to in-person learning, healthcare funding for vaccinations and testing to stem the spread of the virus, and a

long overdue increase in the minimum wage to help the underpaid emerge from this unprecedented crisis.

**For all the above reasons, I strongly urge you to vote "Yes" on the American Rescue Plan recovery package when its considered and oppose any amendments to weaken this well constructed recovery package.**

For more information, please contact IAM Legislative and Political Director Hasan Solomon at (301)967-4575 or [hsolomon@iamaw.org](mailto:hsolomon@iamaw.org).

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert Martinez, Jr." in a cursive style.

Robert Martinez, Jr.  
International President