International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers



9000 Machinists Place Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-2687

Area Code 301-967-4500

OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

December 15, 2022

The Honorable Charles Schumer Majority Leader United States Senate 322 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510-3203 The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker U.S. House of Representatives 1236 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-0512

Dear Majority Leader Schumer and Speaker Pelosi:

On behalf of the 600,000 active and retired members of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM), I write to you today with <u>urgency</u> that this Congress find measures to ensure the reauthorization of the very important Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program as soon as possible.

As you've recently heard from the AFL-CIO and its affiliates like the IAM, this Department of Labor program is so important to thousands of U.S. workers each year who face hardships due to bad trade policies. It is up to Congress to find a means to save this DOL program from extinction.

As I stated in July, the IAM supported the CHIPS and Science Act with hopes that Congress would find a pathway to also pass the much-needed funding for TAA.

## Now is the time for Congress to act to save TAA!

Because Congress has failed to reauthorize the TAA program this year, over 30,000 workers across America have lost access to two years of job retraining benefits and income support.

We should not allow U.S. workers to lose this important safety net, which provides resources such as tuition assistance, income support, and other re-employment services.

Again – I urge this Congress to reauthorize the TAA program for the benefit of our nation's workforce.

For any questions, please contact IAM National Legislative & Political Director Hasan Solomon at (301) 967-4575 or <a href="mailto:hsolomon@iamaw.org">hsolomon@iamaw.org</a>.

Sincerely,

Robert Martinez, Jr.
International President