



BAC Legislative Alert



International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

BAC Government Relations - 1-888-880-8222 ext: 3116

The Employee Free Choice Act

Enlist in BAC's Letter Writing Campaign

Good news!

First, on March 10, 2009, the [Employee Free Choice Act](#) was introduced in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. With Congress expected to take up the bill in late spring or early summer, mobilizing support for this legislation takes on even greater urgency.

Second, according to a new [Gallup Poll](#), Americans firmly support both the [Employee Free Choice Act](#) and workers' rights in general. Here's what the year's first independent survey on these critical issues tells us:

- * 53% support "a new law that would make it easier for labor unions to organize workers."

- * 55% say it's "important" for Congress to pass "a new law that would make it easier for labor unions to organize workers."

These results are especially heartening given the multi-million dollar campaign by corporate interests to lie about the bill and demean working people. Fair-minded Americans want the Employee Free Choice Act to be signed into law.

Unfortunately, those interests won't rest until the last vote is tallied, so it's up to us to continue to press Congress in every way possible to pass this legislation.

Many of you have already responded to earlier Legislative Alerts by signing the online petition supporting the Act and emailing your members of Congress, and for that the BAC wants to thank each and every one of you. [Click [here](#) to email your members of Congress or see the link below.]

A third and even more potent way to express your support is by **hand-writing** letters to your members of Congress. Handwritten letters attract more attention since they reflect an even greater degree of time and energy on the part of constituents.

Because of earlier security concerns involving Congressional mail, however, rather than sending your letters directly, BAC Local Unions and Administrative District Councils will be collecting members' letters to deliver to Capitol Hill.

Don't hesitate to involve members of your family in this important endeavor. Below are sample letters, or feel free to use your own words - the important thing is to make sure that we, as BAC members, are heard.

Thank you!

Mail your letter c/o of your Local or Administrative District Council and mark the outside envelope, "Attention: Employee Free Choice Act Campaign".

If you need your Local's or ADC's address or the names of your Representatives and/or Senators, please contact the BAC Government Relations office at bacgovrelations@bacweb.org

Sample 1

Dear _____:

As your constituent, I am counting on you to help restore our economy through passage of the Employee Free Choice Act. Working families need secure jobs, health and retirement benefits and fair wages. Whatever else we do to help the economy, it won't result in broadly shared, lasting prosperity unless we also restore workers' freedom to bargain with their employers for a better life. I urge you to co-sponsor and vote for the Employee Free Choice Act.

Signed [name]
Print Name
Address
City/State/Zip

Sample 2

Dear _____:

Please co-sponsor and vote for the Employee Free Choice Act. We need this legislation because the current system for forming unions and bargaining is broken. Employers routinely harass, intimidate, coerce and fire workers just because they want the freedom to bargain for a better life. Even those workers that gain union recognition frequently see their efforts to get a first contract delayed and undermined. This is counter to the intent of U.S. laws and must be changed. Again, as a voter, as a worker, as an American, I urge you to support the Employee Free Choice Act.

Signed [name]
Print Name
Address
City/State/Zip

Sample 3

Dear _____:

I am writing to urge you to restore our freedom to bargain for secure jobs, health care and retirement benefits and fair pay by co-sponsoring and voting for the Employee Free Choice Act. Its time to stop employer intimidation of workers who want to join a union, and once again put the decision about whether or not to join a union back with the workers where it belongs.

Signed [name]
Print Name
Address City/State/Zip