

Microsoft Corporation; National Association of Manufacturers; National Foreign Trade Council; National Electrical Manufacturers Association; Ohio Alliance for International Trade.

Oracle Corporation; Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America; Pyramid Mountain Lumber; Retail Industry Leaders Association; Software & Information Industry Association (SIIA); Sun Microsystems; Sun Mountain Lumber; TechAmerica; Telecommunications Industry Association.

The American Business Council; The Association of Equipment Manufacturers; The Boeing Company; The Coca-Cola Company; The Dow Chemical Company; The General Electric Company; The McGraw-Hill Companies; The Stanford Financial Group; United States Council for International Business; United Technologies Corporation; UPS; U.S. Chamber of Commerce; Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.; Whirlpool.

INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED
AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE & AGRICULTURAL
IMPLEMENT WORKERS
OF AMERICA,

Washington, DC, February 10, 2009.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington,
DC.

Hon. HARRY REID,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI AND MAJORITY LEADER REID: This week the House and Senate are expected to have a conference on the proposed American Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The UAW wishes to share with you and the other conferees our views on several important provisions in this legislation.

The UAW strongly supports the core elements of the House and Senate bills, including the provisions that would:

Give tax relief to 95% of working families, amounting to \$500 for individuals and \$1,000 for couples;

Increase spending on infrastructure, energy efficiency, and health care information technology;

Provide fiscal relief for states and localities through an increase in FMAP and other mechanisms; and

Extend assistance to the unemployed through an extension and expansion of UI benefits and COBRA.

We believe these initiatives will create millions of jobs and provide an immediate stimulus for our economy, while also helping to alleviate the impact of the current recession on the most vulnerable Americans. Many of these measures also represent important investments that will lay the basis for long-term economic growth.

The UAW applauds the inclusion of provisions in the House and Senate bills that would encourage investment in advanced technology vehicles and their key components, while also providing assistance to the struggling domestic auto industry. This includes funding for advanced battery manufacturing, the purchase of fuel efficient vehicles by the federal government, and the purchase and manufacturing of plug-in hybrids, as well as monetization of banked tax credits and restoration of the tax deduction for interest and taxes related to the purchase of vehicles. We urge you to retain these provisions in the final conference report.

In addition to these elements, the UAW urges you to include in the final conference report:

The stronger Buy American language in the Senate bill; these provisions will help to ensure that taxpayer funds are used to create jobs for American workers and to stimu-

late the U.S. economy, rather than being sent overseas;

The TAA reform package that has been agreed to by Senators Baucus and Grassley and Representatives Rangel and Camp; these historic reforms will provide vital assistance to workers who have lost their jobs due to trade, and correct numerous longstanding deficiencies in the TAA program;

The more expansive provisions in the House bill that would provide health care to more laid off workers both through an expansion of Medicaid and through a 65% subsidy under COBRA; and

The provisions in the House bill that would provide greater spending for school construction and assistance to states and localities; in addition to generating jobs and boosting the economy, these measures would provide important investments in education and other vital social programs.

The UAW believes it is critically important that Congress act quickly to approve the proposed American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Thank you for considering the points discussed above as you fashion the final conference report on this legislation.

Sincerely,

ALAN REUTHER,
Legislative Director.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I have always been a steadfast supporter of Federal funding for museums and the arts in New York and across the country. When I voted in favor of Senator COBURN's amendment No. 309 to H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, I thought the amendment was only targeted to casinos and golf courses and was not aware it also included museums and other cultural centers. The arts community knows they have had—and will certainly continue to have—my full support.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MERKLEY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the papers from the House will be here momentarily, within the next few minutes. Senator MCCONNELL and I have spoken a number of times during the day. We believe it is fair that Members have an opportunity to study this big document. The basic document people have already read but, of course, that is what the conference is about. They change things. So this should be here in a short time. This will give Members all night to look at this. Senator MCCONNELL and I talked a few minutes ago. We will come in tomorrow at a reasonable hour, spend all day debating this. This would give people the opportunity to read all the papers. Then we would vote sometime late tomorrow afternoon or in the early evening. I have talked to Senator MCCONNELL. He has been certainly more than fair. As everyone knows, Senator KENNEDY is ill. He came here earlier this week, and it would be to his health advantage not

to have to come back tomorrow. Senator MCCONNELL has agreed that is, in fact, the case. It doesn't change the vote count, but it means we can set a definite time which is very helpful.

In addition, Senator BROWN's mother died. The celebration of his mother's life starts tomorrow. Senator BROWN has agreed to leave for, I don't know what it would be called in his religious belief, a viewing, and people will come and greet his family. It is a very large extended family. They will do that. That would be completed around 8 tomorrow night. So we are going to keep the vote open for Senator BROWN until he arrives tomorrow night. This is not the first time we have done this.

I have announced we will hold our votes to 15 minutes, plus we give Members 5 minutes' leeway. After that, the vote is closed. But we have always said that on a close vote, we would keep the vote open until everything is done. Everyone understands that when one's mother dies, we have to be a little more understanding of the situation. This is very difficult for SHERROD BROWN to go home because he has to turn right around and come back here the same night. He is going to fly here and fly back the same night so he can be at the funeral Saturday morning. I appreciate Senator MCCONNELL and all Senators working toward doing this. We will come in at some reasonable time and enter a unanimous consent request that I am confident will be granted so we can do this. We are going to close shortly and come back in the morning at an agreed-upon time with the minority leader.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NAACP

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise to speak on the 100th anniversary of the founding of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP, and to congratulate this remarkable organization on its historic achievements.

In the summer of 1908, a race riot took place in Springfield, IL, my hometown and the hometown of President Abraham Lincoln. A mob of White residents destroyed homes and businesses owned by African Americans, and forced thousands of Black residents to flee Springfield. Two prominent Black men were lynched within half a mile of the home President Lincoln had owned and within 2 miles of his grave.

One of these two men was William Donnegan, a longtime resident of Springfield who was a friend of President Lincoln and the cobbler who made the President's boots. The mob went to Mr. Donnegan's home, cut his throat and lynched him in a school yard across the street.

These tragic events were widely reported at the time and shocked the Nation. It seemed clear that if African Americans living in President Lincoln's hometown could be attacked, then such violence could happen anywhere in the United States.

A group of brave individuals responded to these events by establishing the NAACP 100 years ago today, turning tragedy into hope for a better future. The founders of the NAACP issued a call to the Nation on President Lincoln's birthday in 1909, urging their fellow Americans to take stock of the progress since the Emancipation Proclamation and to measure how well the country had lived up to its obligation to ensure that each and every citizen was afforded equal opportunity and protection.

Less than 50 years after the end of the Civil War, the founders of the NAACP concluded that President Lincoln would be tremendously disappointed by the situation in 1909: the disenfranchisement of African Americans in several States between 1890 and 1908, the failure of the Supreme Court to strike down these disenfranchisement provisions, the segregation in trains and other public places, and attacks on African Americans, even in his hometown of Springfield, IL.

In 1909, Springfield held a banquet to celebrate President Lincoln's centennial. Booker T. Washington was invited to speak at this banquet, but declined to come to the city where race riots had taken place only 6 months before. Not a single African-American resident of Springfield was invited to this banquet. Black residents of Springfield held their own commemoration at the nearby African Methodist Episcopal Church, where the Reverend L. H. Magee expressed his disappointment at the exclusion of African Americans from the official commemoration of the Lincoln Centennial and predicted that by the bicentennial in 2009 Americans would have banished prejudice.

Over the last 100 years, the NAACP has been at the forefront of the struggle for equality. The NAACP led the fight to desegregate public schools, culminating in the Supreme Court's 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* decision, and played a central role in the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and the 1965 Voting Rights Act. Thanks to the hard work of the NAACP and many others, we have taken tremendous steps since the tragic events that led to its creation.

Tonight, at Springfield's bicentennial banquet in honor of President Lincoln, the minister of the African Methodist Episcopal Church will deliver the benediction and President Barack Obama will be the keynote speaker. President Obama's election and so much else that we treasure about America today is possible in part because of the vision and leadership of Abraham Lincoln and shows that there is still within us a passionate longing to be the America that President Lincoln believed we could and must become.

A hundred years later, I believe the founders of the NAACP might conclude that President Lincoln would be proud about many things in our country. But I think they would also remind us that

there is still much to be done in the struggle for equality for all persons. I am reassured in knowing that the NAACP will continue to lead the fight to ensure political, educational, social and economic equality for all persons.

Mr. WEBB. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP, one of our Nation's oldest and most influential civil rights organizations.

Founded on February 12, 1909, the NAACP's original and primary goal was to secure for African Americans the rights that our Constitution guarantees under the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments. The NAACP played a leading role in the civil rights movement in the mid-20th century, stirring the conscience of our nation against segregation and institutionalized racism. Today, the NAACP continues its work to eliminate racial prejudice, and the organization has expanded its endeavors to ensure equal access to political, educational, social and economic advancement for all Americans.

Throughout its 100-year history, the NAACP has effected change at all levels of society and politics, working tirelessly through organizing, advocacy, and judicial action. From a small group of determined citizens in the early 1900s to an organization with over a half-million members and supporters today, the NAACP has established itself throughout America and the world as a leading champion for civil and human rights.

I am proud to be a lifetime member of the NAACP. I share its desire to ensure economic fairness and social justice in this country, and I am pleased to congratulate the NAACP on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

SOUTHEAST ARIZONA LAND EXCHANGE AND CONSERVATION ACT OF 2009

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, yesterday I was pleased to join with Senator MCCAIN to introduce the Southeast Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act, which has been introduced in previous Congresses and has been modified only slightly from the version introduced last year. This bill is a culmination of several years of negotiation with local and State stakeholders and other interested parties.

Let me briefly explain the new provisions in this bill. First, a previous version of this bill would have placed 822 acres of Federal land, including the Apache Leap, in a conservation easement to ensure that these sensitive lands were protected. This modified bill goes a step further by keeping the Apache Leap under the control of the Forest Service, thereby providing Federal protection in perpetuity. In addition, I am pleased to announce that representatives from Resolution Copper have agreed to add an additional 110 acres of privately owned land adja-

cent to the federally owned portion of the Leap in this version of the land exchange.

Besides addressing concerns with Apache Leap, this modified bill also would provide for continued acorn gathering by the Apache tribes at the Oak Flat campground, and transfer additional private lands that will also serve this purpose.

In summary, this land exchange would preserve highly sought after land that is important for wildlife habitat, cultural resources, watershed and land-management objectives; promote outdoor recreation and tourism; and generate economic opportunities for state and local residents in the copper triangle region in Arizona. It is good for our environment and our economy. At a time when our economy is in desperate need of new jobs, this land exchange could create more than a thousand jobs at its peak, and generate more than \$10 billion in total Federal, State, county and local tax revenues. The mine could also meet as much as a quarter of the U.S. demand for copper in the future.

I urge my colleagues to approve the legislation at the earliest possible date.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, in accordance with rule XXVI(2) of the Standing Rules of the Senate, Senator ISAKSON and I ask, unanimous consent that the Rules of Procedure of the Select Committee on Ethics, which were adopted February 23, 1978, and revised November 1999, be printed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for the 111th Congress. The committee procedural rules for the 111th Congress are identical to the procedural rules adopted by the committee for the 110th Congress.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

RULES OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

PART I: ORGANIC AUTHORITY SUBPART A—S. RES. 338 AS AMENDED

S. Res. 338, 88th Cong., 2d Sess. (1964)

Resolved, That (a) there is hereby established a permanent select committee of the Senate to be known as the Select Committee on Ethics (referred to hereinafter as the "Select Committee") consisting of six Members of the Senate, of whom three shall be selected from members of the majority party and three shall be selected from members of the minority party. Members thereof shall be appointed by the Senate in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 1 of Rule XXIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate at the beginning of each Congress. For purposes of paragraph 4 of Rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, service of a Senator as a member or chairman of the Select Committee shall not be taken into account.

(b) Vacancies in the membership of the Select Committee shall not affect the authority of the remaining members to execute the functions of the committee, and shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments thereto are made.