



## Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO

April 9, 2013

Re: "Preventing Greater Uncertainty in Labor-Management Relations Act," H.R. 1120

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO (DPE); its 21 affiliated national unions in education, health care, engineering and science, entertainment and media, and public administration; and four million employees whom those unions represent, I write to urge – in the strongest possible terms – that you *vote against this bill*.

H.R. 1120 represents a poorly disguised attack on the rule of law, employee rights, and the middle class. It seeks to paralyze the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) indefinitely. It threatens to render legal rights unenforceable. And it promises to throw labor-management relations, despite the title of the bill, into complete chaos.

H.R. 1120 would require the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) to cease all activity that requires a three-member quorum and prohibit the Board from enforcing any action taken after January 2012. It follows in the wake of a radical and indefensible decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, *Noel Canning v. NLRB*, that failed to follow an earlier decision by the 11<sup>th</sup> Circuit and is pending review in the U.S. Supreme Court. Other cases are pending in other circuits. *Congress should not interfere with the functioning of the Board while cases involving the President's recess appointment authority make their way through the federal court system.*

The workplace rights that the NLRB enforces benefit employers and employees. They shield employers against illegal forms of concerted action, and employees against illegal firings and retaliation. For employees, a voice in the workplace protected by law has been a key to building a strong middle class and a strong democracy. We do not believe that partisan politics should trump those American values.

Please support the rule of law, American rights, and the American middle class. Please *vote no* on H.R. 1120.

Sincerely,

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President

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