

MAJORITY MEMBERS:

GEORGE MILLER, CALIFORNIA, Chairman

DALE E. KILDEE, MICHIGAN, Vice Chairman
 DONALD M. PAYNE, NEW JERSEY
 ROBERT E. ANDREWS, NEW JERSEY
 ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT, VIRGINIA
 LYNN C. WOOLSEY, CALIFORNIA
 RUBÉN HINOJOSA, TEXAS
 CAROLYN MCCARTHY, NEW YORK
 JOHN F. TIERNEY, MASSACHUSETTS
 DENNIS J. KUCINICH, OHIO
 DAVID WU, OREGON
 RUSH HOLT, NEW JERSEY
 SUSAN A. DAVIS, CALIFORNIA
 RAÚL M. GRIJALVA, ARIZONA
 TIMOTHY H. BISHOP, NEW YORK
 JOE SESTAK, PENNSYLVANIA
 DAVID LOEBSACK, IOWA
 MAZIE HIRONO, HAWAII
 JASON ALTMIRE, PENNSYLVANIA
 PHIL HARE, ILLINOIS
 YVETTE D. CLARKE, NEW YORK
 JOE COURTNEY, CONNECTICUT
 CAROL SHEA-PORTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE
 MARCIA L. FUDGE, OHIO
 JARED POLIS, COLORADO
 PAUL TONKO, NEW YORK
 PEDRO R. PIERLUISI, PUERTO RICO
 GREGORIO KILLI GAMACHO SABLÁN,
 N. MARIANA ISLANDS
 DINA TITUS, NEVADA



COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

2181 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
 WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6100

MINORITY MEMBERS:

HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON, CALIFORNIA,
 Senior Republican Member

THOMAS E. PETRI, WISCONSIN
 PETER HOEKSTRA, MICHIGAN
 MICHAEL N. CASTLE, DELAWARE
 MARK E. SOUDER, INDIANA
 VERNON J. EHLERS, MICHIGAN
 JUDY BIGGERT, ILLINOIS
 TODD RUSSELL PLATTIS, PENNSYLVANIA
 JOE WILSON, SOUTH CAROLINA
 JOHN KLINE, MINNESOTA
 CATHY MORRIS RODGERS, WASHINGTON
 TOM PRICE, GEORGIA
 ROB BISHOP, UTAH
 BRETT GUTHRIE, KENTUCKY
 BILL CASSIDY, LOUISIANA
 TOM McCLINTOCK, CALIFORNIA
 DUNCAN D. HUNTER, CALIFORNIA
 DAVID P. ROE, TENNESSEE
 GLENN THOMPSON, PENNSYLVANIA

March 6, 2009

The Honorable George Miller
 Chairman
 Committee on Education and Labor
 2181 Rayburn House Office Building
 Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Miller:

For the last several weeks, media reports have indicated that you are very soon planning to introduce the "Employee Free Choice Act," legislation that I'm sure you will agree has sparked a vigorous debate among both its supporters and its detractors. Media reports have further suggested that, once introduced, the bill could move through Congress quickly, with limited opportunity for debate. For that reason, on February 9, 2009, I sent you a letter requesting that at such time that the Employee Free Choice Act is introduced in the House of Representatives, the legislation "...be thoroughly reviewed by the full Education and Labor Committee, beginning with hearings reflecting multiple viewpoints on the measure and including markups with full opportunity for members of the minority to offer amendments." In the more than three weeks since I made that initial request, I've noted several more media reports suggesting that introduction of the legislation is imminent. Indeed, several news articles just this week indicated that you will introduce the bill as early as next Monday. As such, I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate my earlier request that when you do introduce the Employee Free Choice Act in the House, the bill be subject to vigorous review by our Committee, including both hearings on its underlying policy implications, as well as markups in which members would be afforded an opportunity to offer amendments.

In addition, I would request that you invite the recently-confirmed Secretary of Labor, the Honorable Hilda Solis, to appear before our Committee in order to share with members her views and those of the Administration on this legislation. I make this request so that Members of our Committee – and, indeed the full House – can know without question where Secretary Solis and

The Honorable George Miller

Page 2

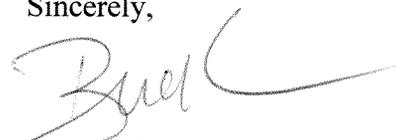
March 6, 2009

President Obama stand on this legislation that has been the subject of so much controversy. I am aware of press accounts that have portrayed the Secretary as being supportive of the bill. But, I am also aware that in her only appearance before this Congress she pointedly demurred when asked to provide her views on card check legislation. Indeed, in answering a question relating to the legislation posed during her appearance before the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, then-Rep. Solis said that her "...position as nominee...doesn't...afford (her) the ability to provide an opinion." Now that Ms. Solis has been confirmed as Secretary of Labor, I'm sure you would agree that it would be extremely valuable for members to hear directly from her as to where both she and the President stand on this issue, and to hear her responses to questions or concerns that members might have concerning this legislation.

As I noted in my previous letter, legislation of this magnitude – indeed, that generates this level of controversy – demands nothing less than a full and thorough airing of all views, including those of the Cabinet official responsible for its implementation. To do otherwise, I believe, does a disservice to our colleagues, our Committee, and, most importantly, to our constituents. It is with that in mind that I, again, respectfully request that our Committee proceed with regular order as we consider the Employee Free Choice Act.

I thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Buck", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Howard P. "Buck" McKeon
Senior Republican Member