

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Statement of Terence M. O'Sullivan,  
General President of LIUNA,  
On the Expected Passage of the U.S. House Economic Recovery Plan**

**“Working People and Our Economy Need Paychecks, Not Stimulus Checks”**

**LIUNA Launches Mobilization, Ad Effort**

**Washington, D.C. (January 28, 2009)** – LIUNA – the Laborers’ International Union of North America – has been leading the effort to increase resources for build America jobs in the economic recovery proposal pending in Congress. The union has launched ads in four states and Washington, D.C., and mobilized its half-million members to contact their Senators. Today, LIUNA General President Terence M. O’Sullivan made the following statement on the expected passage of a recovery bill by the U.S. House of Representatives:

*The economic recovery plan passed today by the U.S. House of Representative is a step forward, but falls short of putting millions of jobless men and women back to work building America, getting our economy back on track and leaving behind real assets for the American people.*

*As the House debated a proposal that at most dedicates 20 percent of resources to build America jobs, the American Society of Civil Engineers released its 2009 Report Card for America's Infrastructure, which showed our nation with a falling and near failing grade of a “D.”*

*Due to inattention and neglect, the price tag for taking care of America’s basics has increased by 37 percent to \$2.2 trillion since 2005. The longer we wait to build America, the worse it gets and the more it costs. Meanwhile, more than 1.4 million construction workers are jobless, bringing unemployment in the construction industry to 15.3 percent and rising.*

*This is a no-brainer – we can put people back to work building America, get our economy back on track and leave behind real assets for the American people. Working people and our economy need paychecks, not stimulus checks. We hope the Senate improves this plan by adding significant resources to create jobs and build America.*

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*The members of LIUNA – the Laborers’ International Union of North America – are on the forefront of the construction industry, a powerhouse of workers who are proud to build America. To learn more about LIUNA’s Build America, so America Works - a long-term effort to make taking care of America’s basics a national priority - go to [www.LiunaBuildsAmerica.org](http://www.LiunaBuildsAmerica.org).*