February 17, 2011

Richard L. Trumka, President
AFL-CIO
501 3rd St. NW Suite 701
Washington, DC 20001

Dear President Trumka,

The national unions which make up the Labor Caucus for Single Payer are asking the AFL-CIO to contribute $20,000 per year to support the work of the Labor Campaign for Single Payer. The Labor Campaign for Single Payer was founded in January, 2009 to make sure that the voice of the grassroots labor movement is heard within the broader movement for healthcare reform. We believe that labor must play a leading role in the fight to make healthcare a right for all in America. The AFL-CIO has been a stalwart ally in this fight and your leadership and clarity have been an invaluable to our efforts.

In September of 2009, the Labor Campaign for Single Payer was a leader in the successful effort to pass a resolution at the national AFL-CIO Convention that would commit the Federation to the ongoing fight for a “Social Insurance Model for Health Care Reform”. That resolution predicted that, “Whatever the outcome of the current debate over health care reform in the 111th Congress, the task of establishing health care as a human right, not a privilege, will still lay before us.” The subsequent passage of PPACA bore out this prediction.

Following the passage of PPACA, over 150 labor leaders from around the country met at the second national meeting of the Labor Campaign for Single Payer and vowed that the fight for healthcare justice must continue. They called for a bold plan of action that includes:

- Continuing to work with the national labor movement to forge a long-term campaign for real healthcare reform.
- Working with our allies to re-launch a national legislative initiative for single-payer.
- Opening new fronts by linking the attacks on Social Security and Medicare to the fight for Medicare for All.
- Acting in solidarity with workers everywhere who are fighting for affordable, quality healthcare for themselves and their families.

The Labor Committee for Single Payer needs the organizational and financial support of all of our allies in order to help implement this ambitious agenda. The Labor Campaign is a grassroots organization and receives no funding from corporations or foundations. The support of the AFL-CIO is critical to its ongoing work.

- Continued -
Please forward all contributions to the Labor Campaign for Single Payer, c/o IUOE Local 148, 2929 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63119. Make checks payable to “Labor Campaign for Single-Payer”. The Labor Campaign for Single Payer is a 501 (c) 4 organization and can accept both general treasury and PAC monies.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to the day when everyone in America has a right to healthcare.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Junemann,
IFPTE President,
Chair, Labor Caucus for Single Payer

Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), AFL-CIO
California School Employees Association (CSEA), AFL-CIO
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAMAW), AFL-CIO
International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE), AFL-CIO
International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE), AFL-CIO
International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU), AFL-CIO
National Nurses United (NNU), AFL-CIO
Utilities Workers Union of America (UWUA), AFL-CIO