

MEMORANDUM

March 2, 2009

TO: National and International Unions of the
AFL-CIO and All Building Trades Affiliates

FR: Mark H. Ayers, President
Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL-CIO

RE: Interference into Internal Union Affairs

A guiding principle of American trade unionism is and always has been that one union or federation of unions must not interfere in the democratic processes of another union or federation.

This is a non-negotiable principle that the unions of the Building and Construction Trades, by unanimous vote on February 24, emphatically reaffirm.

The fact that one large international union has chosen to insert itself into the affairs of UNITE HERE is deplorable and arrogant.

We believe and hereby reassert our firm support for the leaders and members of UNITE HERE, and trust, through this union's own democratic process, it will self-determine its course for the future.

We stand in solidarity with the members of UNITE HERE as their union resolves its internal differences.
