

# AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS



815 SIXTEENTH STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

JOHN J. SWEENEY  
PRESIDENT

RICHARD L. TRUMKA  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

ARLENE HOLT BAKER  
EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT

## **LEGISLATIVE ALERT!**

(202) 637-5057

March 13, 2009

Dear Representative:

The AFL-CIO urges you to vote for a closed rule governing debate over the District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act of 2009 (H.R. 157). This long overdue legislation, which would allow the delegate elected by citizens of the District of Columbia to vote in the House of Representatives, deserves an up-or-down vote.

U.S. citizens who live in our nation's capital serve in the armed forces, pay federal taxes, and sit on federal juries. Although they fulfill the responsibilities of citizenship every day, they have no voting representation in the U.S. Congress. This intolerable situation is an affront to the principles of democracy we hold dear.

The District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act is bipartisan legislation that represents a workable solution to a contentious problem. H.R. 157 would also increase the number of representatives from the state of Utah, and is therefore not expected to affect the partisan balance of the House.

We urge you to support a closed rule providing for a clean vote on the District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act, and to vote for final passage of this vital measure.

Sincerely,

William Samuel, Director  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT