

**URGENT MESSAGE TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE MULTIEMPLOYER  
PENSION PLANS COALITION**

Last evening we received word that the pension relief language in the House version of the tax extenders bill “*Promoting American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act of 2010*” (HR 4213) has been finalized and will go to the floor for a vote tomorrow - **THURSDAY**, May 20. We have worked for many months to get the most favorable language possible for our plans. Now the time has come to call, fax and e-mail your members of Congress and tell them to **PASS THIS BILL**.

Attached are talking points and a draft of a brief letter you can use to get the message across.

- Make your calls today!
  
- Pass this message along to your colleagues, members, and others who have a stake in securing the jobs and retirement security of the millions of Americans covered by multiemployer defined benefit pension plans.
  
- Encourage them to call as well.

Call the members of Congress listed on the next page **before Thursday’s Vote** and urge them to support the **Promoting American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act of 2010 (HR 4213)**.

In the House: **Blue Dog Leadership Team**

Rep. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin (SD), Blue Dog Co-Chair for Administration

Rep. Baron Hill (IN-09), Blue Dog Co-Chair for Policy

Rep. Jim Matheson (UT-02), Blue Dog Co-Chair for Communications

Rep. Heath Shuler (NC-11), Blue Dog Whip

<b><u>Member Name</u></b>	<b><u>State</u></b>	<b><u>Member Name</u></b>	<b><u>State</u></b>	<b><u>Member name</u></b>	<b><u>State</u></b>
Adler	NJ	Giffords	AZ	Murphy, Patrick	PA
Altmire	PA	Gordon	TN	Murphy, Scott	NY
Arcuri	NY	Harmon	CA	Nye	VA
Baca	CA	Halvorson	IL	Owens	NY
Barrrow	GA	Heinrich	NM	Perlmutter	CO
Berry	AR	Hill	IN	Perriello	VA
Bishop	GA	Himes	CT	Peters	MI
Bocchieri	OH	Holden	PA	Peterson	MN
Boren	OK	Herseth Sandlin	SD	Pomeroy	ND
Boswell	IA	Hill	IN	Quigley	IL
Boyd	FL	Holden	TN	Ross	AR
Bright	AL	Kanjorski	PA	Salazar, John	CO
Cardoza	CA	Kilroy	OH	Sanchez, Loretta	CA
Carney	PA	Kind	WI	Schiff, Adam	CA
Chandler	KY	Kissell	NC	Schauer	MI
Childers	MS	Kosmas	FL	Schrader	OR
Connolly	VA	Kratovil	MD	Scott, David	GA
Cooper	TN	Markey, Betsey	CO	Shuler	NC
Costa	CA	Marshall	GA	Snyder	AR
Cuellar	TX	Matheson	UT	Space	OH
Dahlkemper	PA	McIntyre	NC	Tanner	TN
Davis, Artur	AL	McMahon	NY	Taylor, Gene	MS
Davis, Lincoln	TN	Melancon	LA	Teague	NM
Donnelly	IN	Michaud	ME	Thompson, Mike	CA
Driehaus	OH	Minnick	ID	Titus	NV
Ellsworth	IN	Mitchell	AZ	Wilson, Charlie	OH
Foster	IL	Moore, Dennis	KS		

In the Senate these members also need to be strengthened on the issue of tax extenders:

**Snowe, Collins, Voinivich and Brown**

**ON YOUR LETTERHEAD**

Dear Congressman\_\_\_\_\_:

We are writing to urge you to support HR 4213 “*Promoting American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act of 2010*” (the “Tax Extenders” bill) which is coming to the floor of the House for a vote on May 20, 2010. This bill contains limited, targeted relief measures to counter the massive losses suffered in the economic crisis of 2008 by every part of the nation’s financial infrastructure – including our pension system. These measures are designed to preserve small businesses’ ability to compete and retain the jobs and pension benefits of millions of American workers who rely on multiemployer defined benefit pension plans for their retirement security. It is not another “bailout”- to the contrary - it simply provides additional time for employers to meet their funding obligations and by doing so, reduce the amount of contribution increases and/or benefit cuts that would otherwise be imposed to meet those legal funding requirements.

Multiemployer plans are funded by the combined contributions of groups of employers. Those groups may include a few or several thousand employers throughout an industry. Spreading out these long-term obligations will enable tens of thousands of these employers to remain competitive and provide good paying, middle class jobs that generate contributions that fund the plans; thereby reducing the risk to all of the stakeholders, whether they are plan participants, sponsors, or the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

Every day that passes pushes this desperately needed relief out of reach for an increasing number of plans that must comply with the Pension Protection Act. Under that law funding improvement and rehabilitation plans are being adopted that will result in contracts being negotiated with unsustainable contribution rates that cannot be reduced once adopted that will drive employers out of business; and benefits are being cut that cannot be restored.

Your support – YOUR VOTE – is essential. No further delays are acceptable.

**PLEASE VOTE TO PASS HR 4213!**

Respectfully,

## Talking Points

- HR 4213 - “*Promoting American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act of 2010*” will be voted on tomorrow.
- It provides limited, targeted relief to help all pension plans – corporate and multiemployer plans- weather the massive losses suffered in the 2008 economic crisis.
- It is not a “bailout”- to the contrary, it merely provides more time to plan sponsors to meet their funding obligations.
- Over 90% of contributing employers to multiemployer plans are small employers who provide well paying, middle class jobs with pension and health benefits – the kind of jobs that must be preserved if our economy is to recover.
- Before the “Great Recession” of 2008, multiemployer plans were, on average over 90% funded.
- The relief measures included reduce the risk to all stakeholders – participants, sponsors and the PBGC by enabling employers to remain competitive and generate hours of contributions that fund these plans.
- The PPA zone certification and notice deadlines for many plans have already passed. In the absence of such relief Boards of Trustees’ must adopt funding improvement and rehabilitation plans that are being incorporated into collective bargaining agreements being negotiated every day.
- These plans must meet funding targets that include unnecessarily high contribution rates and deeper than necessary benefit cuts that cannot be restored under current law- all of which could be avoided with this relief.
- There can be no further delays!
- HR 4213 must be passed now!