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Contact: Jacob Hay, LIUNA at (202) 942-2285, (202) 445-4788 or jhay@liuna.org

**Statement of Terry O'Sullivan,
General President of LIUNA
On Creating Good Jobs and the U.S. Senate's Water Infrastructure Financing Act**

"The workers who build America deserve decent paychecks"

Washington, D.C. (May 13, 2009) – LIUNA is urging the U.S. Senate to pass the Water Infrastructure Financing Act (S. 1005) with an amendment to keep unscrupulous contractors from driving down local living standards. The Act will invest \$38.5 billion to build America's drinking and wastewater systems both of which are given a D- grade by the American Society of Civil Engineers.

The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee will consider the Act Thursday along with an amendment, offered by Senator Cardin, to include family supporting Davis-Bacon wage protections in the bill. The protections, opposed by corporate interests and anti-worker members of Congress, prevent unscrupulous contractors from using taxpayer dollars to drive down local living standards.

In March, LIUNA members across the U.S. made their voices heard as a strong majority of the U.S. House rejected an amendment to strip these protections from the Water Quality Investment Act.

LIUNA President Terry O'Sullivan made the following statement today:

Family supporting Davis-Bacon provisions prevent taxpayers' hard-earned money from being used to drive down local living standards. Corporate interests oppose Davis-Bacon on federally funded projects because they want to cut paychecks and pocket those cuts as profit.

Corporate interests should not be allowed to use taxpayer dollars to drive down the living standards of working families in communities across the country. That is exactly what will happen if corporate interests prevail in defeating an amendment to include Davis-Bacon protections in the Water Infrastructure Financing Act. The workers who build America and the communities in which they live deserve decent paychecks. Taxpayers deserve the most for their money. Davis-Bacon protections help accomplish both.

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The half-million 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.