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**Statement of Terence M. O'Sullivan,  
General President, Laborers' International Union of North America,  
On the House Democratic Economic Forum**

Washington, D.C. (October 13, 2008) – Terence M. O'Sullivan, General President of the Laborers' International Union of North America, made the following statement today on the House Democratic Economic Forum:

It is encouraging that House Democratic leaders and economic experts are meeting to discuss an economic recovery plan that focuses on creating jobs.

To get our economy back on track, we need to create good jobs by investing in America and building the basics that all of us depend on every day – our roads, bridges, waterways, schoolhouses and energy systems.

When Wall Street began experiencing crisis, Congress jumped to pass a \$700 billion bailout. The true foundation of our economy is the working families who are suffering the most. Working men and women have been experiencing an economic crisis for over a year but so far efforts to meet these challenges are being met with resistance by President Bush and members of his party in Congress.

America needs an economic recovery plan that helps regular Americans. Building America is an investment in our country that creates jobs, leaves behind the foundation to compete globally and has an immediate stimulative impact on our economy. The U.S. Department of Transportation estimates that 47,500 good jobs can be created for every \$1 billion investment to build America. According to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, there are more than 3,000 crucial projects ready to begin within 30-90 days if funded. These projects, valued at \$18 billion would create 855,000 jobs proving that when we build America, America works.

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*The 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.*