



LIUNA!

July 23, 2019

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United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the 500,000 members of the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), I am writing to urge you to support S. 546, a bill which would permanently authorize the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund (VCF).

More than 4,000 LIUNA members put their lives in danger to help with the emergency response and recovery efforts at the World Trade Center (WTC) in the aftermath of the attacks of September 11, 2001. In all, tens of thousands of emergency workers, construction workers, and others responded to the WTC site, the Pentagon, and the Shanksville, Pennsylvania, crash site to assist in rescue and recovery operations. These workers were exposed to a toxic mix of dust and fumes from the collapsed buildings and fires. Many of these workers now suffer from serious respiratory diseases and other health problems.

LIUNA has always been a strong proponent of the James Zadroga Act and its programs since the first introduction of the bill and its reauthorization in 2015 which extended the VCF for five years. Unfortunately, funds for the program are running out, and the Special Master may have to cut payments to victims by as much as seventy (70) percent. This program should have created a mandatory spending item from the beginning.

Under the unanimous consent agreement, two amendments have been made in order. Senator Paul is expected to offer an amendment that would force budget sequestration through 2025, and Senator Lee will offer an amendment to once again limit and cap the VCF. Both amendments should be overwhelmingly rejected. To continue to advocate for an extreme partisan agenda on the backs of the sick and dying heroes of 9/11 is foul and disgusting.

The attacks of September 11, 2001, were directed at the United States of America, and the victims deserve our nation's support. Congress must act to ensure that survivors will continue to receive health care and compensation.

Feel the Power

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We urge you to support permanent authorization of the Victim Compensation Fund and vote for S. 546, the Never Forget the Heroes Act.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Terry O'Sullivan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Terry" and last name "O'Sullivan" clearly distinguishable.

TERRY O'SULLIVAN
General President

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