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March 29, 1991

Representative Moakley,  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Moakley,

I noted with great disappointment your cosponsorship of H.R. 5, the Strike Bill. This reportedly "simple" legislation would reshape American labor/management relations to the detriment of economic growth.

Billed as a way to address the supposed imbalance in labor law created in the 1980's, this bill was actually rejected by the Carter Administration when it developed it's Labor Law Reform package in the mid 1970's.

While labor has long enjoyed the right to strike, management has simultaneously enjoyed the right to attempt to continue operations with either temporary or permanent replacements. There are simply no temporary skilled equipment operators available in the printing industry. If you preclude a company from hiring permanent replacement, you have just forced it to either accede to union demands or go out of business.

The momentum behind this legislation is generated by a few high profile examples of labor/management confrontation. This legislation ignores the fact that the vast majority of collective bargaining negotiations are settled well short of a strike.

This legislation has dramatic implications for nonunion companies and also tramples upon the rights of individuals who choose not to participate in a labor dispute.

H.R. 5 is an affront to the American business community and I strongly urge you to remove your name from sponsorship.

Sincerely,

TRIVERS PRINTING, INC.

Peter J. Courtemanche  
President