

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

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US Representative Danny Davis, Union Leaders and Comcast Workers pledge to pass critical legislation – The Employee Free Choice Act

Union members to join with community and other prominent leaders in a roundtable discussion calling on Congress to pass legislation as a major step in rebuilding our nation's middle-class

(Chicago, IL) – Congressmen Danny Davis will join Comcast workers, union members and local labor and community leaders to pledge his support for the recently introduced Employee Free Choice Act -- legislation that would make it more difficult for employers to thwart workers' efforts to form unions to bargain for better wages and benefits.

"Corporations like Comcast routinely intimidate, harass, coerce and even fire people for exercising their legal and human right to form a union. Comcast spends tremendous amounts of money rejecting good-faith efforts by workers to bargain for better wages, better benefits, and a better life," said Ronald Kastner, President-Business Manager of IBEW Local 21 in Illinois and NW Indiana.

Introduced in the House earlier this month, the bipartisan Employee Free Choice Act would strengthen penalties for employers that violate workers' freedom to make their own choice about a union. It would allow a neutral party to determine a first contract if the company and employees cannot reach an agreement. And it would enable people to form unions when a majority of employees indicate in writing they want one.

WHO: U.S. Representative Danny Davis, Chicago Area Workers, AFL-CIO, IL AFL- CIO, IBEW Local 21 President-Business Manager Ronald Kastner, Chicago Jobs With Justice Executive Director James Thindwa, and other Prominent Community Leaders

WHAT: Roundtable on the need to restore workplace rights

WHEN: February 21st at 10:00 AM

WHERE: UNITE HERE office at 333 S. Ashland, Chicago

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Background – Local Union 21 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW – an affiliate of the AFL-CIO) is made up of over 10,000 members working mostly in Illinois and NW Indiana. Working under dozens of contracts, Local Union 21 members largely work in skilled jobs in the telecommunications industry. IBEW Local Union 21, headquartered in Downers Grove, IL, is the largest IBEW communications union in the United States and Canada and the fourth largest local union in the IBEW.