

THE OFFICE FURNITURE MANUFACTURERS COALITION, L.L.C.

855 East Main Avenue
P.O. Box 302, Loc 0440
Zeeland, MI 49464-0302

Haworth, Inc. • Herman Miller, Inc. • Steelcase, Inc. • Trendway Corporation • Knoll Inc. HNI Corporation

December 18, 2008

Hon. Carl Levin
United States Senate

Hon. Debbie Stabenow
United States Senate

Hon John Dingell
U.S. Representative

Hon. John Conyers
U.S. Representative

Hon. Pete Hoekstra
U.S. Representative

Hon. Vern Ehlers
U.S. Representative

Hon. Bart Stupak
U.S. Representative

Hon. Dave Camp
U.S. Representative

Hon. Dale Kildee
U.S. Representative

Hon. Fred Upton
U.S. Representative

Hon. Tim Walburg
U.S. Representative

Hon. Mike Roger
U.S. Representative

Hon. Joe Knollenberg
U.S. Representative

Hon. Hon. Candice Miller
U.S. Representative

Hon. Thad McCotter
U.S. Representative

Hon. Sandy Levin
U.S. Representative

Hon. Carolyn Kilpatrick
U.S. Representative

Dear Michigan Senators and Representatives:

As members of the Office Furniture Manufacturers Coalition and on behalf of our companies and their employees, we ask for your help in connection with the stimulus package that the new Congress will address in an to alleviate the deep downturn that has griped all segments of our economy. The stimulus relief we request will not add any cost to the program

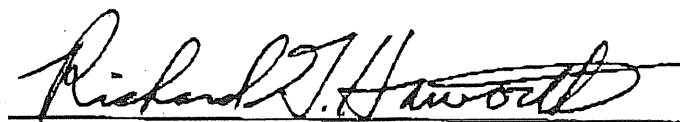
under consideration, in fact every study we have seen shows that it will save the government money. Our request is to provide our workers in the office furniture industry access to existing Federal business opportunities that are currently foreclosed. Specifically, we urge that the preferential status of Federal Prison Industries, Inc. (FPI) be totally suspended during times of broad economic contraction and high unemployment. Further, we would request that administrative action be directed to give Government-wide application to the valuable relief enacted as part of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008, which was sponsored by Chairman Levin.

Michigan has been facing daunting economic challenges for many years. Too many Michigan workers have seen their employment opportunities diminished. Now, with the broader economic downturn, impact has intensified on Michigan workers and the firms that employ them. Unemployment levels in Michigan and in the country in general are well above those recognized in the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment Act.


Federal contracting opportunities are a valuable source of business any time but especially so during challenging times. As non-inmate workers are losing work opportunities, FPI is on course for another record year, with "sales," likely to exceed \$800 million. In fact, during the November 2007 meeting of FPI's Board of Directors, FPI's auditors stated that FPI was on a solid path to being a "billion dollar entity." FPI should be made to routinely compete for those Federal sales rather than simply being able to take them. Non-inmate workers, and the firms that employ them, should have the right to compete for all the Federal business opportunities funded by their tax dollars.

Sincerely:

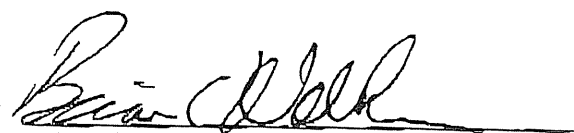
HAWORTH, INC.


Richard Haworth

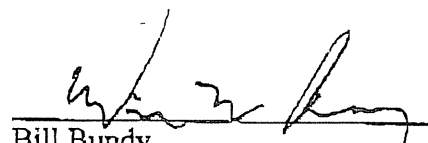
STEELCASE, INC.


James P. Hackett

HERMAN MILLER, INC.


Brian Walker

TRENDWAY CORPORATION


Bill Bundy