International Union of Operating Engineers

AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS

May 10, 2012

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf
Member of Congress
241 Cannon Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Wolf:

I am writing to express the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) support for passage of H.R. 4343, the Foreign Lobby Reform Act, which you recently introduced.

In our opinion, one of the reasons our members and citizens generally have lost faith in our government is that all too many former executive branch officials and members of Congress readily represent foreign governments and state-owned companies after leaving public service.

Your proposed legislation which covers the most important and sensitive positions in the U.S. Government, and which prohibits such representation for a decade, would go a long way to restoring the trust of the American people in senior government officials.

Another very important aspect of the legislation is that it covers state-owned companies. While much has been written about Chinese government companies, there are many government-owned corporations throughout the world. These companies routinely receive extraordinary benefits from their parent governments which seriously disadvantages U.S. companies and American workers.

We share your hope that H.R. 4343 garners bipartisan support and passage in this session of Congress.

Sincerely,

James T. Callahan
General President