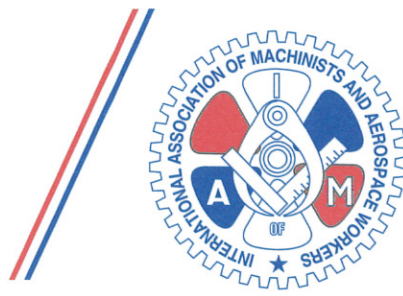


**International
Association of
Machinists and
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-2687

Area Code 301
967-4500



OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

December 12, 2019

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM), the largest aerospace union in North America proudly representing over 600,000 active and retired members, I strongly urge you to vote “No” on the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).

USMCA does not fulfill the promise that was made to U.S. workers to negotiate an agreement that dramatically replaces the current trade template that continues to cost U.S. workers hundreds of thousands of jobs. While it contains some improvements, the outsourcing of U.S. jobs to Mexico will continue at an alarming rate under USMCA. This is not the renegotiated agreement that was promised to U.S. workers and their communities.

Since NAFTA came into force over 25 years ago, the number of U.S. manufacturing jobs has significantly decreased. While there are many reasons for the decrease, one major factor is the continued corporate outsourcing of work to Mexico under NAFTA. During the same period we have been losing manufacturing jobs at home, manufacturing in Mexico is increasing. In the aerospace sector alone, Mexico has created over 40,000 jobs. Many of these jobs were once performed by U.S. aerospace workers.

Instead of the dramatically improved agreement that was promised to workers, USMCA represents only a modest improvement to the current trade template. As we have repeatedly said, to win the support of the IAM, the USMCA **must** make fundamental changes to NAFTA in order to curtail the massive outsourcing of work in aerospace and other manufacturing sectors to Mexico. These changes include robust labor standards, effective enforcement, and stronger rules of origin that do not leave out major sectors of manufacturing.

Unfortunately, USMCA continues to reflect the basic labor standards of the rejected Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement. While progress has been made regarding enforcement, it is simply inadequate to ensure the enforcement of the fundamental human rights that all workers deserve: the right to organize and collectively bargain legitimate agreements and prohibitions against discrimination, forced labor and child labor. We are skeptical that Mexico will be able to fully implement and effectively enforce labor law reform in a timely fashion given all of its challenges, including the hundreds of thousands of company protection contracts that currently exist.

Additionally, the flawed rules of origin language continue to exclude aerospace and other manufacturing sectors. We wonder what the response will be to the hundreds of thousands of manufacturing workers in these sectors when they ask why they were left out of such a critical provision.

For IAM members, it is cold comfort to say that this agreement is better than the original NAFTA, especially given the low standard NAFTA set. The question that must be asked is whether the newly revised NAFTA will curtail the outsourcing of work to Mexico. The simple answer to this question is no.

IAM members and their families and communities have been waiting over 25 years for a responsible trade deal that puts their interests ahead of those of corporations fleeing our shores. They are still waiting.

For these reasons, **I urge you to stand up for millions of working people who deserve better and vote “No” on USMCA.**

For more information, please contact IAM Legislative Director Hasan Solomon at (301) 967-4575 or via email at hsolomon@iamaw.org.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert Martinez, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Robert Martinez, Jr.
International President