

International Brotherhood of

**BOILERMAKERS • IRON SHIP BUILDERS**



**BLACKSMITHS • FORGERS & HELPERS**

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**ABRAHAM BREEHEY**  
DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

May 19, 2010

U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers, I urge you to support HR 4213 "Promoting American Jobs and Closing Tax Loopholes Act of 2010."

This bill includes limited, targeted relief measures to counter the massive losses suffered in the economic crisis of 2008 by every part of the nation's financial infrastructure – including our pension system. These measures are designed to preserve small businesses' ability to compete and retain the jobs and pension benefits of millions of American workers who rely on multiemployer defined benefit pension plans for their retirement security. The essential pension relief measures of H.R. 4213 provide additional time for employers to meet their funding obligations and by doing so, reduce the potential benefit cuts that would otherwise be imposed to meet those funding requirements.

Multiemployer plans are funded by the combined contributions of groups of employers. Those groups may include a few or several thousand employers throughout an industry. Spreading out these long-term obligations will enable tens of thousands of these employers to remain competitive and provide good paying, middle class jobs that generate contributions that fund the plans, thereby reducing the risk to all of the stakeholders, whether they are plan participants, sponsors, or the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation. Every day that passes pushes this desperately needed relief out of reach for an increasing number of plans that must comply with the Pension Protection Act. Under that law, funding improvement and rehabilitation plans are being adopted that will result in unsustainable contribution rates that cannot be reduced once adopted, and will drive employers out of business; and benefits are being cut that cannot be restored.

Thank you for your consideration of our views on this important matter. Support for HR 4213 will be a vote in favor of further economic recovery for workers and employers alike.

Sincerely,

Abraham Breehey  
Special Assistant to the International President  
Director of Legislative Affairs

cc: IBB US International Officers  
IBB US International Staff  
IBB US Local Lodges