



SAMPLE PLEDGE FOR ELECTED LEADERS AND CANDIDATES RESPECTING WORKERS' RIGHTS

As [an elected leader/a candidate for public office], I am committed to making our world a better and more just place to live and work. I understand that as our economy becomes more intricately entwined with those of developing nations, the quality of our lives here in the United States becomes increasingly linked to the quality of working people's lives around the world.

I respect the right of every working person to pursue equality, opportunity and a better life for themselves and their families. I understand the decision to join together in a union belongs exclusively to the employees, not their employers.

I respect the right of every child to learn and play instead of work to boost the profits of unscrupulous employers.

I respect the right of every human being to work free from coercion or outright slavery.

I respect the right of every working person to a workplace free of discrimination, where all employees are evaluated and compensated based on the value of their work, their experience and their ability.

I hereby pledge to stand by working families around the world to make sure that these rights, as declared by the International Labor Organization and agreed to by its member states, are respected, defended and enforced. I therefore will not support any trade agreement that includes special clauses for the preferences of Big Business but not provisions to support workers' rights. I also will work to make sure government purchasers avoid companies who violate these rights.

I further pledge to defend these rights at home on behalf of all working families in our community. I will urge employers to remain neutral, respect the choices of their employees and voluntarily recognize a union when a majority of workers have indicated their desire to join one.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Office: _____