

The Honorable Dale Kildee
Education and Labor Committee
United States House of Representatives
2107 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Kildee,

There is no question that the middle-class Americans need help. A recent New York Times article stated that one in every 172 home loans are being foreclosed on, and that March endured the largest job loss, 86,000, in the last five years. School construction and renovation is the catalyst for our economy, by providing jobs now while investing in the future of our children. The International Union of Painters and Allied Trades loans its full support of Loeb sack- Kildee Committee Substitute to HR. 3021 specifying the renovation of Public Schools which is scheduled for marked-up by the Full Education and Labor Committee on Wednesday April 30th.

The initial Economic Stimulus package (H.R. 5140), while helpful, is unlikely to affect job growth or be the catalyst our economy requires. What we need right now is a stimulus package that immediately creates jobs and jumpstarts economic activity. This can be done by investing in our depleted infrastructure.

The International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) believe that the quickest way to spur the economy is to focus investment on rebuilding and renovating our nation's public schools. This will have the desired result of immediately creating jobs and economic activity.

By providing \$6.4 Billion of direct investment to critical school repairs, we can encourage local, state and regional economic activity, while providing an enhanced learning environment for our teachers and schoolchildren. According to a recent CBO study 42,100 jobs or 82,095,000 man-hours of work are created for every billion dollars invested, meaning Representative Kildee's amendment would provide 269,440 jobs a year which is a clear investment in our economy as well as the future of a highly skilled workforce.

The renovation and rebuilding of public schools is generally conducted during the summer recess to ensure the safety of the students and allowing improvements to be made prior to the new school year. Loeb sack - Kildee Committee Substitute to HR. 3021 will immediately employ hardworking men and women, yield completed projects, and encourage economic activity in a short time frame.

The International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) urge the House Education and Labor Committee to pass the Loeb sack - Kildee Committee Substitute to HR. 3021, to authorize actions to stimulate our failing economy by putting the hard working men and women of the construction trades to work and investing in the future generations of Americans.

Sincerely,

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James A. Williams
General President
International Union of Painters and Allied Trades

