

American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations



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October 3, 2005

A MESSAGE TO THE FLIGHT ATTENDANTS AT NORTHWEST AIRLINES

On behalf of the 53 unions of the AFL-CIO and the 9 million members we represent, I'm writing to encourage the flight attendants at Northwest Airlines to affiliate with the Association of Flight Attendants, CWA – a union of the AFL-CIO.

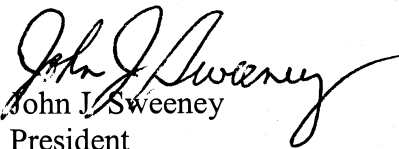
We in the AFL-CIO are closely monitoring the turmoil in the airline industry. We are aware of the sacrifices you've been forced to make by Northwest Airlines and the suffering it has caused you and your families. And we share your outrage that just two weeks after filing for bankruptcy protection, the airline is demanding even more concessions and has announced furloughs for 1400 of you.

We know there are no easy answers, but we want you to know that we are ready to put our full resources behind you. We look forward to working very closely with AFA President Pat Friend and CWA President Larry Cohen to mobilize the strength of the American labor movement behind your efforts. AFA and CWA have formed a great partnership combining the expertise and strength of two of America's great unions.

I strongly feel that the best way for you to stand up for yourselves through the bankruptcy process is by affiliating with AFA/CWA and gaining legal and bargaining help, political influence at every level of government, and the kind of solidarity that money can neither purchase nor defeat.

We will stand by you and fight alongside you until justice and a better future are yours.

In Solidarity,


John J. Sweeney
President