



# SAVE JOBS PROTECT PENSIONS

---

## SAMPLE LETTER TO SENATORS FROM LOCAL UNIONS OR JOINT COUNCILS

*Please use the below sample language to write letters on your letterhead to the Senators in your state.*

Dear Senator:

On behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ (Local/JC), I am writing to express our support for pension relief legislation much like H.R. 3936, the Preserve Benefits and Jobs Act, which was introduced in the U.S. House by Representatives Earl Pomeroy (D-ND) and Patrick Tiberi (R-OH). This Act would save jobs and protect pensions. With the recent collapse of the nation's financial markets and the dire situation of the economy, it is critical that relief be provided to the nation's pension plans, and in particular, to multi-employer defined benefit plans. Our union has more than \_\_\_\_\_ workers in the state of [STATE NAME], including thousands of retirees, who rely on their pension benefits to survive.

The House bill, H.R. 3936, which is endorsed by unions, corporations, and nonprofit organizations, provides much needed long-term relief for multi-employer plans. Many of our union retirement plans are multi-employer plans. These plans are collectively bargained pension arrangements involving employers, usually in a common industry, such as construction, trucking, grocery, retail or health care.

Multi-employer plans allow employers – from small to large – to contribute into a defined benefit retirement plan on behalf of their workers. H.R. 3936 addresses challenges facing these plans. We are concerned that without relief, companies may be forced to layoff workers.

This legislation would stabilize jobs and protect pension plans. With unemployment rates the highest since the Great Depression, we believe it is paramount that the crisis not be worsened by placing unreasonable financial pressure on companies that employ tens of thousands of workers, while ensuring that multi-employer plans for current and future retirees remain solvent.

We urge you to make pension protection a top priority in 2010. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
[NAME]  
[ADDRESS]