

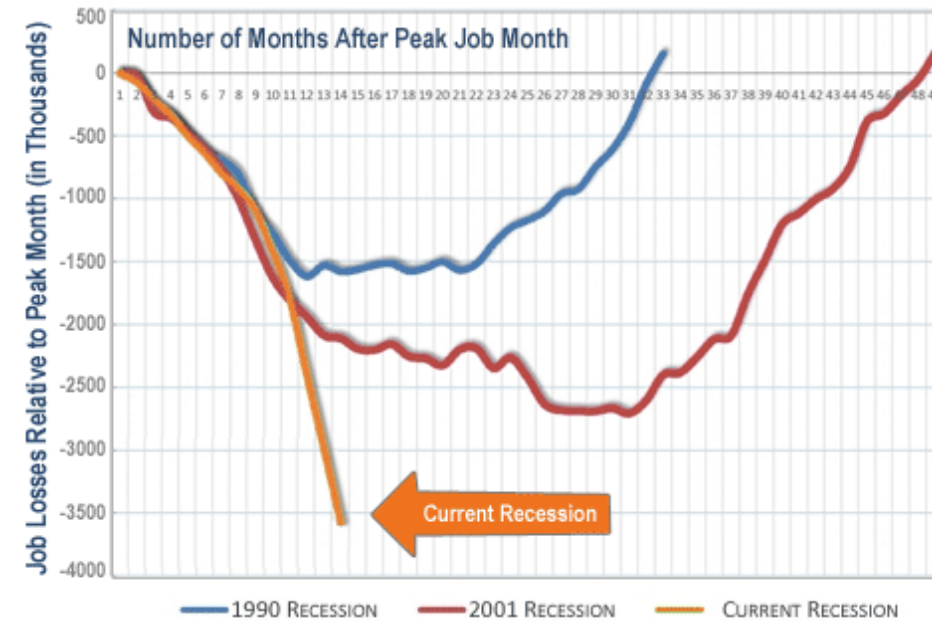
The Secretary Speaks . . .

Douglas E. Sizemore, Executive Secretary- Treasurer



**Sisters and Brothers,**

As America attempts to recover from eight years of failed policies that were implemented by the Bush administration and those in Congress that supported him, we must commit ourselves to continue to show our support for the efforts that President Obama and his administration are putting forth in their economic recovery plan. Thankfully, we have a President that understands that jobs that lead to a thriving middle class are the true engine of our economy. We all know how devastating this recession is but the chart below shows just how bad it really is in terms of job loss compared to the last two recessions.



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Office of the Speaker, 2/6/09

As you can clearly see, this current recession calls for exactly the kind of response that President Obama and a clear majority in the Senate and the House have enacted. I commend President Obama, Senator Sherrod Brown, and Congressman Steve Driehaus for taking the action that is needed to bring back an economy that works for all. For those representatives who want to stick with the failed policies of the Bush administration that put us in this situation, I urge you to look at this chart and to remember that these are not just numbers, these are working men and women that want to support their families, their communities, and this great country of ours and that by no fault of their own are unable to do so at this time.

Brothers and sisters, together, we will get through these challenging times. Please let us know about any members that have lost or are in the process of losing their jobs or are struggling to keep their homes. We will use all resources available to do everything that we can to help our brothers and sisters in need through these devastating economic times.

In solidarity,

*Douglas E. Sizemore*



[www.cincinnatiaflcio.org](http://www.cincinnatiaflcio.org)

**AFL-CIO**  
America's Union Movement

**2009 Ohio AFL-CIO  
Legislative Conference**

The Ohio AFL-CIO will hold its Biennial Legislative Conference April 22-23, 2009 in Columbus at the Renaissance Hotel, 50 North Third Street.

This year's Legislative Conference comes at a time of great economic challenges and worker displacement. The labor movement will be heard from as policymakers begin the work of setting a new course for our state and nation. At this year's Conference we expect to focus upon labor's role in shaping policy and priorities related to the state budget, prevailing wage, collective bargaining and labor law reform (EFCA) to name a few. We expect Governor Strickland and members of the Ohio General Assembly to be in attendance.

We are asking Conference delegates to schedule in advance their legislative meetings to be held on April 23rd after 11:00am. Please register in advance.

**2009 Ohio AFL-CIO  
Legislative Conference**

**April 22-23, 2009**

**Renaissance Hotel  
50 North Third Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215**

**registration fee: \$75.00**

**please contact:  
Amanda Sabol  
(614) 224-8271  
asabol@ohaflicio.org**

# Call Senators Today

*Turn Around America's Economy • Rebuild the Middle Class*

No matter how strong an economic stimulus plan we enact, it will not result in broadly shared, lasting prosperity unless we also restore workers' freedom to join unions and bargain with their employers for a better life.

That's why we need the Employee Free Choice Act – to turn around America's economy and rebuild the middle class.

Our new president, Barack Obama, has said he will sign the Employee Free Choice Act once it lands on his desk. Now we need to get it there.

*Use your own words – on the right are some sample messages to think about for your call*  
**[www.EmployeeFreeChoiceAct.org](http://www.EmployeeFreeChoiceAct.org)**

**“Please co-sponsor and vote for the Employee Free Choice Act. In these perilous economic times, we must restore workers' freedom to bargain with their employers for secure jobs, health care and retirement benefits and fair pay. It's time to rebuild the middle class and help struggling working families.”**

**“Working families are struggling in today's economy. With our broken labor laws, working people are powerless to bargain for better health care, retirement and fair pay. CEOs wouldn't work a day without a contract to protect their soaring pay and golden parachutes – but they do all they can to keep their workers from bargaining and getting contracts. Workers need the Employee Free Choice Act to level the playing field.”**

**“We need the Employee Free Choice Act because the current system for forming unions and bargaining is broken beyond repair. Corporations routinely harass, intimidate, coerce and fire workers just because they want the freedom to bargain for a better life – and even if companies get caught, they get a little more than a slap on the wrist. This must be changed by enacting the Employee Free Choice Act.”**



**CALL YOUR SENATORS TODAY TOLL FREE AT  
 1-866-207-2060  
 URGE THEM TO CO-SPONSOR AND SUPPORT THE  
 EMPLOYEE FREE CHOICE ACT**

## Inside:

- Secretary Speaks.....
- Delegate Meeting Minutes (2/4)
- Events

**Next Delegates' Meeting**  
**April 1, 2009 - 7:00 PM**  
**Laborers Local 265 Hall**  
**(3457 Montgomery Road)**

# Calendar

## March 5 - April 2 (every Thurs.)

**UCAN:** United Way Building (2400 Reading Rd.) 6:00pm-8:30pm  
 Sign up by February, 27th. Contact Sandy Engel at 513-762-7126/sandy.engel@uwgc.org

**April 21:** *Annual Labor-Religion Dinner* SAVE-THE-DATE

**April 22-23** *2009 Ohio AFL-CIO Legislative Conference (see inside for details)*

**April 28:** *Workers' Memorial Day* SAVE-THE-DATE

**May 8:** *Annual CLC Golf Outing* SAVE-THE-DATE

**\*\*MARK YOUR CALENDARS\*\***

**[www.cincinnatiaflcio.org](http://www.cincinnatiaflcio.org)**

*Unless otherwise noted, call the Cincinnati AFL-CIO Labor Council at 513.421.1846 for more information*