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Cincinnati AFL-CIO Labor Leader Doug Sizemore Responds to December Jobs Report

*Backs President-Elect Obama's Economic Recovery Plan And Reaffirms
The Importance Of The Passage Of The Employee Free Choice Act*

With the unemployment rate hitting 7.2 percent in December, the seriousness of the current recession smacks working families in the face as the New Year begins. The 524,000 American jobs lost this past month pushes the job loss total for the year to over 2.5 million.

“As President-Elect Barack Obama and Congress begin to unfold the economic recovery plan, it should focus on creating good paying jobs by investing in rebuilding our schools, roads, and bridges. And restore growth in the areas of communication, transportation, and energy infrastructure,” said Doug Sizemore, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the Cincinnati AFL-CIO Labor Council.

However, the economic stimulus package won't turn around America unless this country changes the way it does business. Working people have been the backbone of the American economy from its inception, yet corporations and CEO's benefit as the middle class loses the American Dream: fair wages, affordable healthcare, quality education, and a secure retirement.

In order for a sustained economic growth and a broad shared prosperity, all-encompassing economic changes must be made. This is why the passage of the Employee Free Choice Act is so critical to the American economy. It would ensure that all workers could bargain for a better life. And it would level the playing field and lead to rebuilding the middle class.

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