Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 1, 2010

Harry Hoglander, Chair
Linda Puchala, Member
Elizabeth Dougherty, Member
National Mediation Board
1301 K Street NW, Suite 250 East
Washington, DC 20005-7011

Dear Chairman Hoglander, Members Puchala and Dougherty;

On November 3, 2010 over 7,140 former Northwest flight attendants lost 63 years of history and negotiated rights when the votes were tallied in the Delta representation election. There were 9,216 votes in favor of union representation and 9,544 votes against. In the days following the election we have been made aware of allegations of an intimidating and aggressive anti-union campaign conducted by Delta Air Lines. We are writing to urge you to fully investigate the charges of voter interference on the part of Delta Air Lines management in the election.

The election at Delta was one of the first elections that was conducted under the new voting procedures put in place by the National Mediation Board (NMB). The rule changed how the votes were counted, bringing NMB procedures in line with other democratic election processes.

According to the NMB's longstanding rules, employers are prohibited from engaging in "pervasive" or "overwhelming" interference in employees' decision-making process. We are troubled that such interference may have occurred in this election.

Instances of reported interference include:

- Check-in computers – the ones that flight attendants are required to sign-in when they report to work – were flooded with pop-up screens asking each flight attendant if they had voted in the election. If they answered "**NO**" they were directed to cast their votes, while still on computers with Delta IP addresses, often times with Delta Management Personnel overseeing the entire process.

- Delta Air Lines increased management and supervisory presence in the crew rooms, often where this voting was taking place.

- Repeated phone calls as well as private one-on-one conversations conducted by Delta Supervisors to the homes and personal cell phones of employees asking them if they voted already, and, in some cases, why they hadn't yet voted.

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This record turn-out for a representation election was astounding. Nearly 95% of the eligible participants cast votes. However, these numbers can only be historic if the employees were able to cast their votes free of intimidation and interference.

We encourage you to use all the resources at your disposal to investigate any complaints of interference and to ensure the integrity of the election process. If you find sufficient evidence interference did occur, we know that you will take the necessary steps to correct any injustice.

Sincerely,

Betty McCollum
Member of Congress

Keith Ellison
Member of Congress

George Miller
Member of Congress

Sander Levin
Member of Congress

Timothy Bishop
Member of Congress

Lucille Roybal-Allard
Member of Congress

Bob Filner
Member of Congress

Sam Farr
Member of Congress

Maurice Hinchey
Member of Congress

Raúl Grijalva
Member of Congress

Shelley Berkley
Member of Congress

Kathy Castor
Member of Congress

Charlie A. Gonzalez
Member of Congress

Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress

Larry Kissell
Member of Congress

Alan Grayson
Member of Congress

John Conyers, Jr.
Member of Congress

Betty Sutton
Member of Congress

Tim Ryan
Member of Congress

Donna F. Edwards
Member of Congress

Gene Green
Member of Congress

Daniel B. Maffei
Member of Congress

Rush Holt
Member of Congress

Luis Gutierrez
Member of Congress

Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

Anthony D. Weiner
Member of Congress

Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress

José Serrano
Member of Congress

Dan Lipinski
Member of Congress

Bill Owens
Member of Congress

Dale E. Kildee
Member of Congress

Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress

Linda Sánchez
Member of Congress

Madeleine Bordallo
Member of Congress

Dennis Moore
Member of Congress

Judy Chu
Member of Congress

Jim Moran
Member of Congress

Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress

David Loebsack
Member of Congress

Michael E. Capuano
Member of Congress

Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

Bruce Braley
Member of Congress

John Garamendi
Member of Congress

Brian Higgins
Member of Congress

Phil Hare
Member of Congress

Gary L. Ackerman
Member of Congress

Albio Sires
Member of Congress

Leonard Boswell
Member of Congress

John F. Tierney
Member of Congress

Laura Richardson
Member of Congress

Christopher S. Murphy
Member of Congress

Carolyn B. Maloney
Member of Congress

Timothy Walz
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

Dennis J. Kucinich
Member of Congress

Patrick J. Kennedy
Member of Congress

Lynn Woolsey
Member of Congress

Peter DeFazio
Member of Congress

Mazie K. Hirono
Member of Congress

Michael Honda
Member of Congress

Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress

Harry Teague
Member of Congress

Louise Slaughter
Member of Congress

Edolphus Towns
Member of Congress

Barney Frank
Member of Congress

Bill Pascrell
Member of Congress

Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress

Jerry Costello
Member of Congress

Collin Peterson
Member of Congress

William Lacy Clay, Jr.
Member of Congress

Nita Lowey
Member of Congress

Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress

André Carson
Member of Congress

Steve Israel
Member of Congress

Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress

Carolyn McCarthy
Member of Congress

Mark Critz
Member of Congress

Jim Langevin
Member of Congress

Edward J. Markey
Member of Congress

Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress

Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress

Mike Doyle
Member of Congress

Russ Carnahan
Member of Congress

Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress

Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

Eni F.H. Faleomavaega
Member of Congress

Lois Capps
Member of Congress

David Wu
Member of Congress

Michael Michaud
Member of Congress

John A. Boccieri

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Member of Congress

Gerry Connolly
Member of Congress