

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

JAMES P. HOFFA
General President

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April 5, 2018

Honorable Senator Ernesto Cordero Arroyo
President of Senate Governing Board of the Mexican Republic
Av. Paseo de la Reforma 135,
Hemiciclo Piso 06 Oficina 06,
Col. Tabacalera,
Del. Cuauhtémoc, Cd. de México,
C.P. 06030

Dear Senator Cordero Arroyo:

On behalf of the Teamsters, I hope this letter finds you well. Because we are following the progress of the NAFTA negotiations closely, especially the discussions towards a new chapter that will establish and enforce the rights of workers throughout North America, we are also very interested in the progress of the labor law reforms in the Mexican congress. In particular, we are concerned that the reform bill introduced on March 22 undermines the 2017 Constitutional reforms and violates Mexico's commitments under the ILO and the North American Agreement on Labor Cooperation. Moreover, we are concerned that this legislation will undermine the ongoing progress of the new North American trade agreement, which is close to completion.

I understand that the legislation which you are pushing through the Senate creates barriers to prevent workers from organizing democratic, independent unions and from bargaining fair wages and adequate living conditions. We believe that all workers in North America should enjoy a basic right that is now enshrined in your constitution – namely, the right to a secret vote to approve collective bargaining agreements.

Honorable Senator Ernesto Cordero Arroyo

April 5, 2018

Page 2

Accordingly, we urge you to refrain from pushing an inadequate and regressive bill through to a vote and, instead, to engage in genuine dialogue with stakeholders and independent unions in a non-partisan legislative debate that will faithfully implement the Constitutional reforms. The final codification of those reforms must protect the workers' freedom of association and the right to authentic collective bargaining. My union and my brothers and sisters in other US and Canadian unions who want to see a new NAFTA that will protect the rights of our members and all workers in North America share the hope that the process in the Mexican Senate does not impede the progress that we have made.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James P. Hoffa". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J".

James P. Hoffa
General President