



LOCAL UNION NO. 952

GENERAL TRUCK DRIVERS, OFFICE, FOOD & WAREHOUSE UNION

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Patrick D. Kelly
Secretary-Treasurer and
Principal Officer

October 30, 2009

Via Facsimile and Regular US Mail

James P. Hoffa, General President
International Brotherhood of Teamsters
25 Louisiana Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Re: Excise Tax Credits for Alternative Fuel

Dear Brother Hoffa:

Legislation has been introduced in the 111th Congress (H.R. 1835 and S. 1408) that extends the excise tax credits for alternative fuel, alternative fuel infrastructure, and alternative fueled vehicles. On behalf of Teamsters Local 952, I am writing to express our support for these tax credit extensions and urge you to help us make sure that these extensions are contained in legislation before the end of the year.

One of our employers Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), operates 527 compressed natural gas (CNG) and liquid natural gas (LNG) buses. Under the existing Internal Revenue Code, OCTA has received more than \$5 million annually from this program, making possible the continuation of transit services and the retention of transit-related jobs in Orange County. This program also addresses the poor air quality in our region by allowing OCTA to replace older and higher polluting buses with cleaner and more efficient CNG and LNG buses.

It is important to underscore that OCTA and our members operate in one of the worst air quality regions in the nation. This legislation also provides an important public benefit by reducing air pollution. Alternative fueled vehicles produce fewer pollutants than comparable diesel or gasoline powered vehicles; more alternative fueled vehicles on the road will lead to improved air quality. This is a green bill and will help us keep our members working. We currently have about 80 OCTA members laid-off and are facing lay-offs of another 200. Local 952 has a little more than 2000 members employed in transit. We look forward to working with you to protect our members and the environment.

If you have any questions, you can contact me at (714)454-1199. Thank you.

Fraternally,



Patrick D. Kelly
Secretary-Treasurer

PDK:df

cc: Peter Buffa, Chairman OCTA