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A MESSAGE FROM THE DMC ORGANIZING COMMITTEE FOR CHANGE

NOVEMBER 30, 2007

DETROIT COMMUNITY, CLERGY AND LABOR LEADERS EXPRESS ANGER ABOUT DMC ANTI-UNION TACTICS

DMC RNs and community leaders testify before the House Labor Committee

The House Labor Committee held a hearing today in Detroit on House Bill No. 4443 which would prohibit the use of public funds for anti-union campaigns. State Representative Fred Miller chaired the hearing. State Representatives Bettie Cook Scott and Mark Meadows listened to testimony and expressed their concern at public funds being diverted away from patient care to harassing and intimidating nurses. "I wish we had a quorum here to pass this today," said Meadows. Meadows also spoke specifically on the DMC nurses' organizing drive and how this bill would address the "diversion of funds from patient care." He said, "This statute enforces neutrality," and would restrict employers to "not use state money to fight unionization."

Along with many community and labor leaders, rousing testimony was given by DMC nurses. Said one RN, "I don't want to fund my own oppression." Another RN made it clear that every minute spent on an anti-union campaign was one minute that could have and should have been spent on patient care.



The community reaction to the nurses' testimony was conveyed loud and clear:

- "We need transparency from Employer's use of public funds."
- "It is unacceptable to use taxpayer dollars to aid in anti-union campaigns."
- "This is not about undermining the business model of DMC."
- "We want quality care for our community."
- "Charge nurses are not supervisors."
- "Respect the RN voice."
- "This is about patient care."

The House Labor Committee will continue to follow the DMC organizing campaign. Chairman Miller promised to keep this legislation on the agenda and move it into the full House for a vote.

For more information, call the DMC hotline at 248.799.0808.