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NEWS RELEASE

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National Right to Work Committee

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Worker Advocate: Solis Nomination Slap in the Face to America's Independent Minded Workers

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WASHINGTON, D.C. (December 18, 2008) – Mark Mix, President of the 2.2 million member National Right to Committee, has released the following statement about President-elect Barack Obama's selection of Congresswoman Hilda Solis (D-CA) as the next Secretary of Labor:

“Obama's appointment of Hilda Solis is very disturbing news for America's independent-minded workers.

“Congresswoman Solis is a die-hard forced unionism activist who apparently believes that all workers should be gathered into union collectives – whether they like it or not. Throughout her political career, she has unfailingly carried water for Big Labor and voted in favor of every forced unionism power grab that has come before her. In fact, she had a 100% voting record from the AFL-CIO, in support of their radical forced unionism agenda.

“Hypocritically, she advocated for a secret ballot election in 2007 for the Congressional Hispanic Caucus elections, yet she cosponsored and voted for a bill (H.R. 800) to strip America's workers of this same right, instead subjecting them to intimidation by union organizers when choosing whether to unionize.

“She also cosponsored and voted for another bill (H.R. 980) that would have subjected every police officer, firefighter, and EMT in the country to Big Labor's forced unionism regime.

“The U.S. Department of Labor is not supposed to be the U.S. Department of Big Labor. The Labor secretary should be on the side of workers, not union bosses who seek to trample workers' rights.

“As Secretary of Labor, we fear she will gut the Office of Labor Management Standards, the one division of the agency that works to root out corruption and make unions accountable to workers. Her track record indicates that she will allow the AFL-CIO to use all the tools of the Department of Labor to pressure companies until they hand over their employees to forced unionization.

“This appears to be the first in a long line of paybacks that Big Labor expects from President Barack Obama.”

The National Right to Work Committee, established in 1955, is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, single-purpose citizens' organization dedicated to the principle that all Americans must have the right to join a union if they choose to, but none should ever be forced to affiliate with a union in order to get or keep a job. Its web address is www.nrtwc.org.