

LPAC Ads Demand Congress Act Now!

by Bonnie James

A political bombshell was detonated in the nation's capital during the first week in June, when recipients of the "must-read" Capitol Hill weeklies, *The Hill* (June 7) and *Roll Call* (June 8), opened their newspapers to find a three-quarter-page ad, sponsored by the LaRouche Political Action Committee (LPAC), under the headline, "Congress Must Launch Emergency Economic Action Now!" The text (published last week in *EIR*) calls for Congress to immediately enact Lyndon LaRouche's legislative program to rescue the U.S. economy, especially its core auto/machine-tool sector, from the devastation unleashed by synarchist banker Felix Rohatyn's globalization schemes. The full program is outlined in an LPAC pamphlet entitled, "The U.S. Economic Recovery Act of 2006," was released May 14, in half a million copies so far.

At present, approximately 150 state legislators, former Congressmen, city councilmen, trade union and Democratic Party officials, and other notables have endorsed the statement, of whom 74 are named in the ad.

LPAC also released 50,000 copies of a mass-circulation leaflet on June 7, with the text of the ad, and a complete list of signatories, to complement the paid advertisements. Signatures continue to be collected, and further releases are anticipated.

Among the signers listed are: former U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders of Little Rock, Ark.; Assemblyman Mervyn Dymally, who is also a former Congressman from Los Angeles, and the former Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus; and a total of 75 labor leaders, including nine local UAW officials.

Strong Labor Contingent

A total of 36 states are represented among the signers, the largest number from the formerly industrialized states of the Midwest, notably Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, and Ohio. These account for 58 of the overall endorsers, the greatest number of whom are union officials. Mark Sweazy, the president of UAW Local 969, Columbus, Ohio, representing the endangered Delphi workers, was the driving force behind the mobilization of labor officials. Other union presidents who signed: Samuel Stevens, UAW Local 882, Atlanta; David Philpott, IAM Local 774, Wichita; John Jeffries, IAM Local 830, Louisville, Ky.; Ken Koch, State Council of Machinists, Louisville, Ky.; Gary P. Sullivan, Utility Workers United of America Local 369, Boston; John Clark, UAW Local 2031,



Adrian, Mich.; Joe Joseph, UAW Local 1970, Dearborn, Mich.; William Martin, CWA Local 4108, Saginaw, Mich.; David G. Newell, Building and Construction Trades Council, Union Church, Miss.; Noel J. Christmas, Utility Workers of America Local 601, Bloomfield, N.J.; Bradford B. Clemons, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen, Div. 937, Columbus, Ohio; Larry Oberding, Ironworkers Local 44, Cincinnati; Larry Adams, UAW Local 832, Erie, Pa.; Daniel Rodriguez Jr., Amalgamated Transit Union Local 694, San Antonio, Tex.; and Denal Crawford, AFSCME Local 1654, Milwaukee.

Intense 'Week of Action'

The release of the ads and the leaflet were timed to intersect a "Week of Action" by the LaRouche Political Action Committee and the LaRouche Youth Movement (LYM), culminating in an international webcast Friday, June 9, addressed by LaRouche (see p. 4). By Thursday, reports of responses had begun to pour into the LPAC warroom from the organizing on Capitol Hill, where every House and Senate office was personally visited by a LYM organizer, and shown a copy of the ad in *The Hill* or *Roll Call*. A 100-man lobbying force—75 LYM and 25 labor and elected officials—visited dozens of Congressional and Senate offices.

By the end of the week, reverberations from the two ads, the mass leaflet, and wide circulation of the "Emergency Legislation" pamphlet began to shake the capital. Preliminary reports indicated that Members of Congress and their staffs had to sit up and take notice, discovering how many prominent people in their home states were "on board" with LaRouche's program. A legislative aide in the office of a Missouri Democrat was typical: Seeing the names from his state listed in *The Hill*, he exclaimed, "We know him, we know him, yup, we know him," and his eyes lit up. He said "I'll make sure [the Congressman] knows about this."