

RICHARD J. DURBIN

ILLINOIS

ASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC LEADER

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

COMMITTEE ON RULES
AND ADMINISTRATION

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-1304

March 25, 2015

The Honorable Thomas E Perez
Secretary
United States Department of Labor
200 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20210

Dear Secretary Perez:

I write seeking your support for Department of Labor assistance for displaced steel workers in the Metro East region of Illinois. In compliance with the WARN Act, U.S. Steel gave notice this week of its intention to lay off 2,080 workers on May 28 and idle Granite City Works for an undetermined period of time.

Granite City Works is one of the largest employers in the region. This part of Illinois was hit hard by the recession, and the loss of these jobs at this point in the recovery will be very difficult for the community to absorb. I encourage you to work with the community, the local Steelworkers, and U.S. Steel to make sure dislocated workers are aware of federal support that might be available for them.

I appreciate your timely consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Richard J Durbin
United States Senator