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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

August 23, 2011

Lowell McAdam
President and CEO
Verizon
140 West St.
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mr. McAdams:

I am writing to express my deep concern about the recent strike by your unionized employees represented by the Communications Workers of America (CWA) and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) due to the apparent lack of progress in meaningful and productive bargaining on the part of Verizon management.

It is my understanding that in the last four years, Verizon has made over \$19 billion in profit and has provided for almost \$260 million in compensation to the top five executives. Yet, you have presented a list of concessionary demands to the unionized workers which would total \$1 billion a year - or \$20,000 in givebacks for every worker. I have been provided a list that outlines those nearly 100 concessionary demands which include the ability for Verizon management to offshore U.S. jobs, the freezing of pensions, eliminating support for employee child care and a dramatic reduction in paid holidays and sick days.

Collective bargaining rights, which are enshrined in the laws of this country, are about the give and take over the bargaining table and can only be successful when both parties engage in the process with a mindset that allows for a potential resolution that can be acceptable to both sides. Compromise, rather than demands, is what the collective bargaining process is all about.

I am encouraged that CWA and IBEW workers were recently able to return to work after reaching an agreement with Verizon management on how bargaining will proceed in the going forward. As major issues still remain, I strongly urge you – for the sake of the company, the employees and the customers – to continue bargaining in a fair and constructive manner. Having a resolution that is mutually acceptable will undoubtedly benefit everyone involved.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gwen Moore".

GWEN MOORE

Member of Congress