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ROBERT A. BRADY  
1ST DISTRICT, PHILADELPHIA

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-3801

February 4, 2004

- 220 CARBON HILL RD OFFICE BLDG 2ND FL  
WILMINGTON, DE 19804-3801  
(302) 426-7777  
FAX: (302) 426-0000
- 1307 SOUTH BROAD STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19146  
(215) 261-4607  
FAX: (215) 261-4600
- THE COLONY BUILDING  
61-10 WILMINGTON STREET  
1ST FLOOR  
CHESTER, PA 19380  
(610) 676-3000
- 700 MARKET STREET  
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106  
(215) 526-1111  
FAX: (215) 426-7700

Mr. Larry Johnson  
Albertson, Inc.  
250 East Parkcenter Boulevard  
Boise, Idaho 83706

Dear Mr. Johnston

I write in opposition to your company's treatment of its Southern California workers and to your apparent plans for the export of your anti-worker tactics. I'm not only writing as a congressman. I'm writing as a customer. Or rather, as a former customer. My family and I will not shop at your stores until your workers are treated fairly.

Your scheme to segregate newly hired workers in a different health insurance plan than that of existing employees would effectively eliminate affordable health benefits in the future. For new hires, any meaningful benefits would be cut immediately. Inadequate benefit funding for existing employees would lead to massive cuts or unbearable co-pays.

As a lifelong union member, I know how tough it is to strike. No worker does it because he or she wants to. But, some issues are worth fighting for. And the health of American families is one of them. Your plan is one more step in the recent efforts to create a third world economy here in America. We will continue to fight these efforts with everything we have. And that is especially true in Philadelphia, the most union town in this country. In this town, we know that working people have to stand together. That's why I am a member of two unions. And that's why my wife and my children are union members too. We won't forget that every family in this country has benefited from the sacrifices of people like these supermarket workers. Because of people like these UFCW workers, we have livable wages and decent health coverage. I can't stand by while 70,000 of our sisters and brothers are being locked out or forced into a strike because you and other corporate bosses want to take them back to the bad old days.

I urge you to drop this proposal and to bargain in good faith with your workers everywhere.

Sincerely,

ROBERT A. BRADY  
Member of Congress