

Brown Calls on DHL to Respond to Wilmington-Area Families



Senator Says He Will Personally Deliver Petitions on Their Behalf

July 3, 2008

WASHINGTON, D.C. – In response to DHL’s refusal to accept petitions from area families against a proposed deal with UPS, Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) today sent a letter to DHL’s Wilmington Director of Hub Operations Mike Schmitt.

On Monday, June 30, more than nine thousand petitions were delivered to the Wilmington facility. According to area workers and community leaders, the petitions were refused and were eventually left with a security guard.

“Regardless of whether the dismissive treatment to which these individuals were subjected stemmed from a misunderstanding or was intentional, it must be rectified immediately,” Brown wrote. “I would like to personally deliver the petitions to you and discuss your company’s future role in Wilmington.”

Brown, along with federal, state, and local officials, is working to save more than 8,000 area jobs that would be lost if DHL-parent company Deutsche Post World Net agrees to a deal with UPS.

“I ask that before Deutsche Post World Net and DHL follow through on a plan that will undermine the financial wellbeing of thousands of Ohio families, wreak havoc on the region in which they live, and squander infrastructure put in place to support your corporate goals, you see fit to consider alternative strategies consistent with sound corporate leadership and basic corporate citizenship,” wrote Brown.

A full copy of letter text is included below, and signed PDF copy is available for download at the following link:

July 3, 2008

Mike Schmitt
Director of Hub Operations
DHL Administration Building
1100 Airport Road
Building 2061
Wilmington, Ohio 45177

Dear Mr. Schmitt:

I understand that on June 30th, 2008, several members of the Wilmington community were rebuffed by members of your staff when they attempted to deliver petitions to your offices.

These petitions reflect the views of more than 9,000 Ohioans who embraced your company when it joined the Wilmington community and invested their skills, their talent, and their hopes in the company's success. Regardless of whether the dismissive treatment to which these individuals were subjected stemmed from a misunderstanding or was intentional, it must be rectified immediately. I would like to personally deliver the petitions to you and discuss your company's future role in Wilmington.

I was disturbed to learn that DHL and its parent company, Deutsche Post World, were unwilling to consider a detailed plan presented by ABX, Inc. that is designed to significantly improve financial results for your Wilmington operations. The local community and the state have helped build the infrastructure that enabled DHL to operate in Wilmington, and they stand ready to work with you to achieve your performance goals.

I ask that before Deutsche Post World and DHL follow through on a plan that will undermine the financial wellbeing of thousands of Ohio families, wreak havoc on the region in which they live, and squander infrastructure put in place to support your corporate goals, you see fit to consider alternative strategies consistent with sound corporate leadership and basic corporate citizenship.

I look forward to the opportunity to share the Wilmington petitions and explore next steps with you. Pat Rogala from my staff will call to determine a convenient time for a meeting.

Sincerely,

Sherrod Brown United States Senator

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Press Contacts:
(202) 224-3978

SHERROD BROWN
OHIO

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY

BANKING, HOUSING,
AND URBAN AFFAIRS

HEALTH, EDUCATION,
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VETERANS' AFFAIRS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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Sherrod Brown
United States Senator