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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 24, 2008

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary of Labor
United States Department of Labor
200 Constitution Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20210

Dear Secretary Chao:

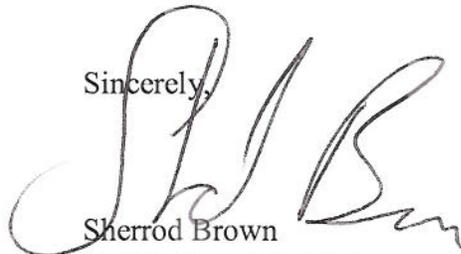
I am writing in strong support of the petition for Trade Adjustment Assistance filed on behalf of the employees of Norwalk Furniture in Norwalk, Ohio. The company experienced mass layoffs on Friday, July 18th that will adversely affect more than 500 Ohio employees.

In recent years, low wage labor countries such as China have increased their production and exports in the high-end furniture market, making it very difficult for American furniture manufacturers to compete. I am confident that the investigation conducted by the Department of Labor will reveal that an increase in foreign imports in the furniture industry has contributed significantly to the decline in sales at Norwalk Furniture.

It is both appropriate and essential that the Department of Labor act swiftly in considering the TAA petition filed on behalf of the employees at Norwalk Furniture. Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can assist in any way.

Thank you for your urgent attention to this request and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator