



September 1, 2006

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Cathy Rought

608-217-1232

rought@aft-wisconsin.org

John Gard Misrepresents His Labor Record

*In two days, over 120 labor leaders publicly affirm
Gard is wrong for working families*

Wisconsin -- Earlier this week, Congressional candidate John Gard launched a campaign ad grossly misrepresenting his labor support. Labor leaders were outraged by the ad campaign, and over 120 of them from across the state organized a coalition to set the record straight. To respond to Gard's claims, the coalition is initiating a voter education campaign and purchasing ads in the 8th Congressional District.

"If John Gard thinks voting for working families 27 percent of the time is a job well-done, he has a lot of explaining to do to the people of the 8th Congressional District," said AFT-Wisconsin president and coalition member Andy Gussert. "Gard has voted to table a bill that would have increased the state minimum wage and voted against providing grants to businesses to train and employ workers in Wisconsin. John Gard is no friend to working families in Wisconsin."

Labor coalition Leaders that signed on in opposition to Gard as of yesterday evening: Richard W. Abelson, Executive Director, AFSCME Council 48; Charles Albrecht, President, Waukesha County Technical Educators, Pewaukee; Tony Bakken, Steward Local 903, Prairie Du Chien; Jan Banicki, AFSCME Local 13, Council 24; Mike Bark, Legislative Advocate, Local #395, Ashland; Leigh Barker, Director, United Technical College Council/WEAC, Johnson Creek; Bart Bartholomew, Recording Secretary Lodge 1947 IAMAW, Fond du Lac; Carol Beals, President of WSEU Local 1622, Platteville; Marty Beil, Executive Director Wisconsin State Employees Union, AFSCME Council #24; Lonnie Benning, Legislative Advocate, Gateway Technical Education Association (GTEA); Kris Bernacki, President Local 3605, La Crosse; Jim Blank, Executive Director WEAC United Northeast Educators, Green Bay; LaVon Blum, Lancaster; Greg Breaker, Business Manager IBEW Local 577, Appleton; Michael Bolton, USW Staff

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Representative, Menasha; Jose Bucio, President DALU Local 24111, Milwaukee; Mick Burnell, President, IAMAW, Schofield; Carol Calkins, President Local 194, LaCrosse; Jim Cavanaugh, President of South Central Federation of Labor; Forrest Ceel, President IBEW Local 2150, Waukesha; Ric Choudoir, President Local 1942, UW Hospital & Clinics; Jack Connell, President Local 1914, Eau Claire; Dean DeBroux, President WEAC Bayland Educators, Green Bay; Eve Degen, Exec. Asst. for Labor Relations, Madison Teachers Inc.; Carol Disch, Dickeyville; Douglas Drake, Steelworkers USW Organizing Coordinator, District Two; James Droster, President of local #175 Mauston Sandridge; Jane Dworak, Secretary IAMAW Local 516, Manitowoc; Joan Ehlen, Potosi; Bernie Faust, President Retirees Chapter; Kathleen Fall, Local 1622, Platteville; Di Ann Fechter, Wisconsin AFL-CIO Labor, Education and Training Center, Manitowoc; Paulette Feld, President Local 579, Oshkosh; Ken Fischer, Steelworkers USW President Local 815, Clintonville; Michael Frazier, Chairperson UAW Local 95, Janesville; Ronald J. Frederick, President, Kenosha AFL-CIO-CLC; Jay Paul Gates, President Teaching Assistants' Association; Jon Geenen, Steelworkers USW District 2 Director, Kaukauna; Casper T. Green, International Representative, Boilermakers; Andy Gussert, President of AFT-Wisconsin; Steven Gustafson, Local 3237, Glidden; Craig Hanke, Correctional Sergeant, Local 104, Milwaukee; Gregory W. Hazen, Vice President Local 1914 WSEU; Sandra Heiser, Steward Local 3021, Deerfield; Sean Heiser, Chief Steward AFSCME Local 13, Council 24; Allen Highman, WSEU, Madison; Greg Hinds, Steelworkers USW President Local 2-1324, Appleton; Gary L. Hjelm, AFT-W Vice President, Chippewa Falls; Kathy Hollon, President Local 1449, La Crosse; Geoffrey Ihle, Co-President Teaching Assistants' Association; Judy Jensen, AFL-CIO/CSL, Kenosha County; Carri Karschney, Executive Board, Local #281, Redgranite; Mike Kazcmarzinski, President WEAC United Northeast Educators, Green Bay; Mark Kearns, Past President AFT-W Local 395, New Richmond; John Kies, President Local 281, Redgranite Correctional Institution; Mark Klemmer, Local 48 Executive Board Member, WSEU Council 24; Jim Koeberl, UAW Local 95 CAP Chair & Benefit Rep, Janesville; Jay G. Kopplin, UAW International Representative, Green Bay; Sharron Kratcha, Local 1622, Platteville; Kathy Kreul, President Local 3670, Fennimore; Jane Kuhl, Hazel Green; Randy Lewis, Local 3021, Thompson Correctional Center; Sylvia Linton, Gateway Technical Education Association (GTEA); Dode Lowe, President AFSCME Retirees, Subchapter 52; Gretchen Lowe, Secretary AFSCME Retirees, Subchapter 52; David Mancheski, Steward Local #13, Madison; John Matthews, Executive Director, Madison Teachers Inc; JC McClendon, Local CO3 WSEU, Milwaukee; Robert McLinn, President AFSCME Council 24, Waupun; Ann M. McNeary, Chair, Communications Workers Political Council, Sun Prairie; Gary Mercier, Local 32, Green Bay Correctional Institution; Donna Mews, President Local 2738, Gateway Technical Education Association (GTEA); Jack Meyer, Business Manager IBEW Local 158, Green Bay; Debra Miles, Steward AFSCME Local 13, Council 24; James Mills, AFSCME Council 24 Field Representative, Wisconsin West Central District; Gary Mitchell, President AFSCME Local 2412, WSEU, UW-Baraboo, UW-Rock County; Jim Molenda, President Local 223, United Faculty and Academic Staff; Ken Moss, Financial Specialist II, Local #104, Milwaukee; David Northrup, Business Manager IBEW Local 388, Stevens Point; Jen Olson, Local 1622,

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Platteville; Jerry O'Rourke, WSEU Local 903, Boscobel; Ellen Parker, Local 1449 Council 24, SEPAC; Barb Peters, Local 171, UW-Madison; Julie A Peters, President of AFSCME Local 15, Waukesha; Steven Phillips, President Local 4822, State Public Defenders; Red Platz, UAW CAP Coordinator, Sheboygan; Stan Proffitt, Secretary/Treasurer of DALU 24111, Fox Valley; Mike Pyne, President IBEW 965, Madison; Kurt Randorf, President of USW Local 2-150, Tomah; Robert Regalia, Local 104, Milwaukee; Karen Reiter, Vice President Local 579, Oshkosh; Alisa Rosenthal, Co-President Teaching Assistants' Association; Jon Rosenthal, Correctional Sergeant AFSCME Local 219, New Richmond; Susan Ruggles, Health & Safety Chair, AFT Local 212 Milwaukee; Barb Sabatke, President, Local 4019, Shell Lake; Bob Schindel, President Local 778, Oconto Falls; Dawn Schott, Treasurer AFSCME Local 13, Council 24; Frank Shansky, Director of Labor Relations AFT Local 212, Milwaukee; Rosalie Slomski, WSEU Local 579, Oshkosh; Patricia R. Smoody, President Elect, Gateway Technical Education Association (GTEA); Linda M. Spaulding, Membership Coordinator, Gateway Technical Education Association (GTEA); Gary Steffen, President of Local #3732, Wisconsin Science Professionals; Sara L. Stichert, Secretary, Local 579, Winnebago County; Lisa Storms, Labor Relations Chair, Local 2398, Eau Claire; Mike Thoms, Business Representative Teamsters Local 75, Green Bay; Thomas Thornton, Vice President AFSCME Chapter 7 Retirees, Grand View; Lisa Udelhoven, Potosi; Conrad Umentum, Vice President Greater Green Bay Labor Council; Pat Urso, AFSCME Local 13, Council 24; Tony Vanderbloemen, President Greater Green Bay Labor Council; Sgt. Dennis Walker, Work Release Coordinator, McNaughton Correctional Center; Brian Weeks, AFSCME Political Director; Daniel R. Welch, Executive Director UFCW Local 1473, Oshkosh; Todd Wetzal, President AFSCME Local 178, Dodge Correctional Institution, Waupun; Micheal Williquette, Teamsters Local 75, Green Bay; Russ Wittkop, IAMAW Grand Lodge Representative, Green Bay; Lynn Van Eimeren, Gateway Technical College Counselor; Mary Von Ruden, Local 1947, Executive Board Member Council 24; Ron Vechinski, President CWA Local 4670, Wisconsin Rapids; Kim Yoder, President of AFT-W Local 2398, Eau Claire; and Matt Zirnicki, Business Agent ILA Local 1014, Pulaski.