



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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POWER! Adds Three New Members

Protect Our Earned Workers Retirement (POWER!) Chairman, former Congressman Connie Mack IV, today announced the addition of three new members, Hasak Cold Storage, McDowell Tires, and Schwebel's. This brings the number of employer members to a total of eight.

“Clearly, momentum is gaining among the employer community to urge Congress to arrive at a solution to the multi-employer pension plan (MEPP) crisis that is fair to workers, retirees, and the American taxpayer. The recently formed Congressional Joint Select Committee to Solve the Multi-Employer Pension Crisis has a deadline of November 30 to issue its report. We need for the members to get beyond political rhetoric and ultimatums. America is waiting for real leadership to be exhibited,” commented POWER! Chairman, former Congressman Connie Mack IV.

POWER! is committed to involving employers, unions, workers and retirees to achieve a fair and reasonable solution to the MEPP crisis.

“The financial strain of having to pay the fund every month has forced me to begin shutting down my company. I am unable to retire, unable to sell the company, and working to avoid further liability. I am like the guy who goes to the track and says he hopes he breaks even, because he needs the money,” commented Amit Hasak, President of Hasak Cold Storage. Hasak Cold Storage, in business since 1923 and under current management since 1993 is a public refrigerated warehouse, acting as a distribution center for its customers.

Mark McDowell, President of McDowell Tire said: “We are paying into retirement fund where I can promise you that without a change, our employees, past and present, will never see their full retirement benefits. Something is wrong when those of us who have done nothing wrong are forced to pay for the mistakes of others, or alone bear the costs associated with the dynamism of the American economy. In existence since 1940, McDowell Tire is a fleet tire service company.

Schwebel's Bakery is a family-owned bakery with operations in Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. It has been in business since 1906. Steve Cooper, President of Schwebel's stated: “If Schwebel's were to remove itself from its Multi-Employer Pension Plan (MEPP), Central States, we would be forced to pay \$150 million. Because of this liability, our company currently has no net worth. What has Schwebel's done wrong to find itself in

this situation? Nothing. It has only paid its bills and stayed in business. Yet the current law has saddled Schwebel's with an insurmountable burden. The time for Congress to act is now.”

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