**PETITION TO PRIME MINISTER STEPHEN HARPER ON RETIREMENT SECURITY**

Many Canadians continue to suffer from the recent global economic crisis, including losing their retirement savings and pension security. In the midst of this economic meltdown, misinformation is being spread about the pension crisis, and there are attempts by corporate interests to eliminate defined benefit pension plans in Canada. Currently, their favoured targets are the pension plans of federal public-sector workers.

If there's anything we should have learned from the recent economic crisis, it is that market-based defined contribution pension plans (such as RRSPs) have failed to provide the needed retirement security for many Canadians. On the other hand, defined benefit plans are better for the economy as a whole and have proven that they are generally able to withstand economic downturns and recessions.

We are against using federal public sector workers as scapegoats and attacking their defined benefit pension plans. We are against pushing everyone's welfare down to the lowest common denominator rather than protecting the pension plans that work and improving retirement security for all.

**We, therefore, urge you to:**

1. Introduce concrete measures to safeguard federal public service pension plans.
2. Introduce concrete measures to safeguard all defined benefit pension plans.
3. Improve retirement security for everyone by doubling Quebec-Canada Pension Plan benefits and immediately increasing Old Age Security and Guaranteed Income Supplement for all retirees.

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***Please mail signed petitions by March 1, 2010, to the Public Service Alliance of Canada***
***233 Gilmour St., Ottawa, ON, K2P 0P1.***
***Mark the envelope, " Petitions"***