

UNITED STEELWORKERS
SOAR
STEELWORKERS ORGANIZATION OF ACTIVE RETIREES

September 1, 2010

The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the 350,000 retired steelworkers and their spouses that the Steelworker Organization of Active Retirees (SOAR) represent, we are writing to urge you to remove Honeywell CEO David Cote from the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform. Mr. Cote's cruel and calculated behavior toward workers at its hexafluoride plant in Metropolis, Ill. clearly illustrates that he's unqualified and inappropriate to help decide issues such as whether to reduce the federal deficit by cutting crucial programs like social security or by upgrading the faulty military contracting process, from which Honeywell benefits.

Mr. Cote should be evicted from the so-called Deficit Commission immediately, before he can use that position to harm all Americans the way he is injuring Honeywell workers in Illinois.

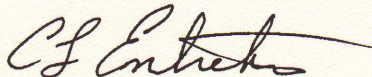
On June 28, Honeywell locked out 230 union workers at its hexafluoride plant, even though they offered to continue working under the terms of their expired labor agreement. Under Cote's leadership, Honeywell had proposed eliminating retiree health care and increasing workers' out-of-pocket health care maximums to \$8,500 a year. The union declined to accept that proposal and offered to continue working as they attempted to reach an agreement. Honeywell refused and locked out the workers instead.

A profitable company's demands that workers and retirees relinquish health benefits and its locking out workers who offered to continue talks demonstrate that its CEO, David Cote, is out of touch with mainstream America and has absolutely no compassion for his fellow man. Anyone who would force their workers onto the streets in these times of economic uncertainty cannot competently or justly serve on a Commission charged with issuing recommendations that may impact our nation's citizens for decades.

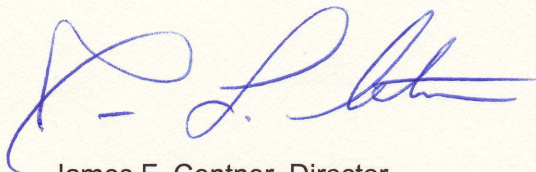
What we find extremely troubling is how Cote is proposing to end health insurance for retirees who were for years exposed on their job to hazardous materials, including substances listed as carcinogens by the Department of Energy. These workers suffer high cancer rates. Cote's proposal to terminate their health insurance is cruel and inhumane.

David Cote's complete disregard for working Americans, makes him unfit to serve on the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility. He must be removed immediately, before he can use that position to harm more working people.

Respectfully,



C. L. Entekin, President



James F. Centner, Director

S T E E L W O R K E R S O R G A N I Z A T I O N O F A C T I V E R E T I R E E S

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