



May 20, 2005

Chairman Amir Peretz  
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Israel

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Dear Brother Peretz:

On behalf of the 1.3 million members of the American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO, I want to relay our support for the Israeli teachers and Histadrut as you protest the firing of as many as 6000 teachers employed throughout Israel. The unilateral decision of Finance Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Education Minister Limor Livnat to dismiss teachers from their jobs demonstrates their continued disrespect for educators and the children they serve.

The AFT strongly supports your efforts, along with the chairman of the Israeli Teachers' Union, Yossi Wasserman, and the chairman of the Secondary School Teachers Association, Ran Erez, to find a just and fair resolution to a crisis created by the reckless dismissal of teachers from their jobs.

Please let your members know that we stand with them in this struggle.

In Solidarity,

Edward J. McElroy  
President

EJM : dh opeiu#2 afl-cio

American Federation  
of Teachers, AFL-CIO

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AFT Teachers  
AFT PSRP  
AFT Higher Education  
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