



# INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL ENGINEERS AFL-CIO & CLC

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **President Obama Signs Labor/Management Executive Order IFPTE Applauds Obama Administration Order as “Historic”**

WASHINGTON, DC – President Obama signed an Executive Order today calling for Labor/Management Forums throughout the Federal Government. In signing this historic Executive Order, President Obama has named IFPTE as one of four unions to hold a permanent labor seat on the *National Council on Federal Labor-Management Relations*.

The National Council of Federal Labor-Management Relations will include a total of seven labor organizations, whose seats will be held by national union presidents. There will also be a seat for the Federal Managers Association (FMA) and one for the Senior Executive Association (SEA). The Council will be rounded out by management and will include government officials from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), and the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA).

The Executive Order improves on the Clinton era Partnership Order by putting in place concrete mechanisms to create an environment where productive labor/management relations can occur. Among the IFPTE backed provisions included in the Executive Order are:

- The allocation of seven labor seats on the National Council;
- The creation of pilot projects throughout the federal government that will mandate bargaining over subjects described in 5 U.S.C. 7106(b)(1);
- The ability of the National Council to recommend where the pilot projects will occur;
- The ability of agencies to voluntarily enter into bargaining over subjects described in 5 U.S.C. 7106(b)(1);
- Mandates pilots begin within 150 days following today’s signing of the Executive Order;
- The requirement that workers and their unions be provided with meaningful pre-decisional information and involvement in all workplace matters, whether they are negotiable under 5 U.S.C. 7106(b)(1) or not.

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International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE) President, Gregory J. Junemann, provided the following statement in strong support of today's Executive Order signing:

“IFPTE applauds President Obama and his team for crafting this excellent Executive Order. Needless to say, we are appreciative that the President allotted one of the four labor seats on the National Council to IFPTE. Our union is proud that the President has recognized the unique contributions that our members can contribute to the Council's important work.

“Equally important is that President Obama's team has crafted an Executive Order that will create an environment in which meaningful and positive change can occur to benefit not only the American taxpayer, but also benefit the dedicated workers that are our federal employees. In other words, this Executive Order has ‘teeth in it’. Among the several important provisions of this Executive Order are that it mandates the National Council recommend pilots no more than 150 days from today, provides that pre-decisional information be made available to unions and their members, and ensures that management at all levels engage in these forums in a good faith way by allowing for stalled agency and component level talks to be elevated to the National Council. IFPTE will aggressively work to make sure our members are adequately and fairly represented through the National Council especially within agencies where there continues to be little appetite by management to have productive working relationships with their unions.

“IFPTE is also pleased that this Executive Order does not preclude agencies or components from voluntarily engaging in permissive subject bargaining through these labor/management forums. This is critical because of the fine work of the Metal Trades Department, which has helped IFPTE and other NAVSEA represented unions cultivate a productive collaboration between unions and management.”

“We at IFPTE applaud President Obama for signing this Executive Order and look forward to an expeditious start to the Labor/Management Forum discussions.”

Full text of the Executive Order can be found at [www.ifpte.org](http://www.ifpte.org).

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