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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Susan Stuntz April 10, 1991  
**FROM:** Powell Adams & Rinehart  
**RE:** Minnesota Labor Plan

After holding discussions with the Strategy Group and Wayne Cox of Minnesota Citizens for Tax Justice (MCTJ), and based upon the immediacy of the Minnesota legislative situation, we have outlined short-term actions designed to increase trade union activity in the current tax fight. Specifically, we will work with Wayne and Tobacco Industry Labor Management Committee state consultant Wes Lane to coordinate the following activities:

- 1) A special alert will be mailed this week from MCTJ to labor officials throughout the state asking them to contact legislators and express their opposition to regressive taxes.
- 2) Wayne Cox will address a luncheon meeting of the St. Paul Trades and Labor Assembly on April 15th. He will discuss the budget situation and urge those present to contact state legislators.
- 3) Wayne will provide a special briefing for thirty-five labor officials and lobbyists on April 16th at the AFL-CIO weekly legislative meeting. His focus will be the impact of pending state budget proposals on working people and the need for direct and grassroots lobbying for progressive alternatives.
- 4) We will work with Wayne to set up a "crisis meeting" on April 17 of labor officials and human service advocates from around the state to discuss revenue proposals before the legislature and strategies for defeating regressive tax plans. Jeff Joseph will participate in Wayne's presentation, show the fair tax video and coordinate distribution of the labor fair tax materials.
- 5) On April 27 there is a major forum on tax/budget issues at the St. Paul Labor Center with Senator Paul Wellstone as featured speaker. Wayne Cox will be making a presentation at this event.
- 6) Jeff Joseph will be travelling to Minnesota next week to provide on-site assistance for the CTJ state press conference. This will be our best news "hook" and every effort will be made to maximize the press coverage of this event. In addition, Jeff will work with Wayne to generate other opportunities for TILMC presentations to be arranged.

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7) Eric Shulman will be talking to the National Council of Senior Citizens about the possibility of a mailing to senior citizens in Minnesota to generate letters to state legislators in opposition to excise tax increases.

8) We will draft sample letters opposing regressive taxes -- specifically Governor Carlson's proposed excise tax increases -- to be sent from Minnesota labor leaders to key state legislators. The letters will urge the legislators to avoid regressive taxes and instead pass a budget that relies on progressive measures to raise revenues. We will draft these letters immediately upon your approval. The letters will be distributed to labor leaders by Wes Lane. Lane will particularly focus on signing-on representatives from the Teamsters and the building trade unions.

In conjunction with these activities, we will search for opportunities to garner media coverage of Cox's presentations and other labor activities surrounding the tax fight.

cc: Tom Donahue  
Jim Savarese