



OFFICE OF
WILLIAM JEFFERSON CLINTON

February 13, 2009

Ms. Brigitte Browning
President, Local Union 30
UNITE HERE!
Suite 300
3737 Camino Del Rio South
San Diego, California 92108

Dear Ms. Browning:

Thank you for writing to President Clinton with your concerns about the International Franchise Association Convention event he will be speaking to at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego.

This event is part of a conference hosted by the International Franchise Association, which he was invited to address in 2008. He was in no way involved in choosing the venue nor was he aware of the controversy related to it until we received your letter last week. As you know, President Clinton shares many of your concerns and wishes this event could have taken place elsewhere. Upon receiving your letter, we made several attempts to change the venue. Unfortunately, the hosting organization responded that they were unable to do so, and President Clinton believes he should honor his contractual obligation.

President Clinton has a long-standing record of support for the LGBT community. He strongly opposed Proposition 8, speaking out against it, and recording calls to California voters urging them to defeat it. He still opposes it and hopes it can be reversed.

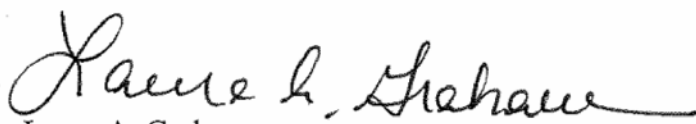
More openly gay and lesbian individuals served in senior posts throughout the federal government during the Clinton Administration than during any other Presidential administration in the history of our country. President Clinton issued an executive order prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation in federal civilian employment, including civilian national security jobs, and he strongly supported the Hate Crimes Prevention Act, and the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). He encouraged our citizens not simply to tolerate our differences but to celebrate them.

During his Presidency and in the 8 years since he left office, President Clinton has worked hard for union members. He signed the Family and Medical Leave Act, raised the minimum wage, increased opportunities for job training, strengthened the enforcement of OSHA and other labor laws, and beat back all the efforts of the Republican Congress to destroy the labor movement.

During his Administration, over 22 million new jobs were created, unemployment fell to its lowest rate in 30 years; family incomes rose to their highest level ever, income inequality declined for the first time in more than 20 years; and almost eight million people moved from poverty into the middle class, one hundred times as many as did so in the previous twelve years.

Although President Clinton regrets that this event must occur at the Grand Hyatt and disagrees with the owner's support of Proposition 8, he will live up to the terms of a contractual obligation to speak to the International Franchise Association Convention, the host for the event and, the only party he, or his representatives, have had contact with. Neither President Clinton, nor anyone affiliated with him, had anything to do with the selection of the Grand Hyatt. As I said, he will continue his opposition to Proposition 8 and support its reversal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura A. Graham". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Laura A. Graham
Chief of Staff