

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 3 2008



CONTACT:
Michael Carroll
312-391-1981 (cell)
michael_adain_carroll@yahoo.com

ABBOD: SUBMISSIVE MANZULLO SILENT AS MORE WORKERS LAID OFF IN ROCKFORD

Manzullo's blind support of Bush economics only going to make things worse for families

ROCKFORD—Robert Abboud, nuclear scientist and 16th District Congressional candidate, met with union representatives of 65 Hamilton-Sundstrand workers to be laid off at the end of May, warning that it's "only going to get worse" economically with submissive congressmen like Rep. Don Manzullo (R-Ill.) in Washington.

"If we keep going in this direction, if we keep electing congressmen like Don Manzullo, who voted against legislation to revoke an export tax break for U.S. manufacturers, the whole ship's going to sink," Abboud said. "I'm not here to spin the problem; I'm here to solve the problem."

Since Jan. 2007, unemployment in Rockford has risen nearly two percent, causing the overall unemployment rate to top out at an alarming 8.5 percent. This staggering job loss is just another chapter in the downturn of Rockford's manufacturing base. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, unemployment in Rockford jumped more than any other U.S. metro area last year.

"Welcome to the worst economic crisis in recent history," Abboud said. "Washington tells us we just need to make a few adjustments and everything will be fine. Well, things aren't fine—things aren't fine for the 65 workers being laid off here."

Abboud said if congressmen like Manzullo continue blindly adopting Bush's failed policies, cities like Rockford—and America as a whole—will slip further into economic hardship. The Barrington Hills mayor said Congress must invest in people to avoid a full-scale recession.

"We don't have a choice," Abboud said. "I refuse to make families nickel and dime their future because politicians like Don Manzullo can't say no to President Bush. We have a golden opportunity to do the right thing, right the course and right our future."