



For Immediate Release

Contact: Rick Abbruzzese
(410) 814-4206

**Mid-Atlantic Regional Board of UNITE HERE and UNITE
HERE Local 25 Endorse Martin O'Malley for Governor**
*O'Malley Gains Momentum as Another Union Recognizes His Leadership in
Fighting for Workers*

COLLEGE PARK, MD (November 14, 2005) – Today, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Board of UNITE HERE (formerly the Union of Needletrades, Industrial, and Textile Employees, and the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees International Union) and UNITE HERE Local 25 announced their support of Martin O'Malley for Governor of Maryland. Over 100 UNITE HERE workers and retirees from across Maryland attended the event.

“I am very excited to see the Regional Board of UNITE HERE and Local 25 join in our effort. We need a governor who will stand up and fight for those who work hard and play by the rules. As competition for service jobs grows – not just from neighboring states but also internationally – we need a stronger Maryland to protect the rights of our workers,” said O'Malley.

According to Harold Bock, Mid-Atlantic Regional Director for UNITE HERE, “As a supporter of living wage and collective bargaining for city employees, O'Malley is the candidate to move Maryland forward in the coming years. He stood with teachers and against the Ehrlich administration when he supported the teachers' collective bargaining agreement, and we know that he will stand up for workers as governor of Maryland.”

UNITE HERE represents 450,000 active members across America, and 400,000 retirees nationwide. In Maryland, UNITE HERE is a truly statewide union, with 5,000 members located across the state. Local 25 represents 7,000 members in the Washington Metro area, including more than 2,000 in Maryland, mostly in Prince George's County.

This is O'Malley's third union endorsement. Previously, 1199 SEIU United Health Care Workers East and the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council of Carpenters formally announced their support. Earlier this week, O'Malley received endorsements from local elected officials representing Northern Anne Arundel County, who added their names to the dozens already supporting his candidacy for governor.

###

Friends of Martin O'Malley – 2400 Boston Street, Suite 203 – Baltimore, MD 21224 – 410-814-4206 – fax: 410-814-4219

Authority: Friends of Martin O'Malley, Martin F. Cadogan, Treasurer