



**Office of the Mayor
City of Los Angeles**

ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA

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Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa issued the following statement in observance of Labor Day:

On Monday, September 4, we honor the millions of workers who contribute to the economic vitality of this great city, state and nation.

We honor those who teach our children, who harvest our food, who sweep the floors, who nurse the sick, who care for the elderly, and who protect our communities.

We honor each and every American who goes to work every day.

But Labor Day isn't just a day for celebrations. It's a day to confront the mounting challenges facing millions of working people.

It's a day to address conditions across America, where increasing numbers of full-time workers find themselves slipping into the ranks of the "working poor."

It's a day to face the economic facts of life that where more and more Americans are working longer hours and earning less.

It's a day to confront the fact that in cities like Los Angeles we're losing our middle-class.

It's a day to find remedies to the cuts in health benefits that have made basic healthcare unaffordable for 46 million Americans.

It's a day to commit ourselves to redeeming the promise of a free, quality, universal public education.

It's a day to demand solutions to the crisis of housing affordability.

On this Labor Day, let's pledge our commitment to better access to healthcare, fundamental education reform, and more affordable housing.

Let's work together to keep the dream alive.