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**SWEATSHOP WATCH™**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**GARMENT WORKER ADVOCATES TO RELEASE UNPRECEDENTED STUDY  
EVALUATING CALIFORNIA'S LANDMARK ANTI-SWEATSHOP LAW**

**WHAT:**

Leading garment worker advocates will hold a press conference on September 28<sup>th</sup> to commemorate the sixth anniversary of AB 633 (Steinberg) – California's landmark anti-sweatshop law – and to unveil a ground-breaking study evaluating the State's implementation of the law.

**WHY:**

Los Angeles remains the epicenter of garment production in both the state and nation, manufacturing roughly \$13 billion in apparel each year. Yet garment workers – who comprise the very foundation of the industry – fail to reap the benefits of this multibillion-dollar business. Workers toil under hazardous working conditions for poverty wages in an industry notorious for sweatshops and rampant workplace violations – earning Los Angeles the dubious distinction as the sweatshop capital of the nation.

Six years ago, AB 633 was signed into law – signaling an historic consensus that corporations must be held accountable and that sweatshops must be relegated to our past, not our future. For the report, advocates analyzed a statistically random sample of over 200 AB 633 claims to answer the pivotal question: *Has AB 633 fulfilled its promise?*

**WHEN:**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2005 at 10:30 a.m.**

**WHERE:**

**Asian Pacific American Legal Center in Los Angeles, California**  
1145 Wilshire Boulevard (at the corner of Lucas), 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Library.  
Public parking lots are located on both Wilshire and Lucas. Street parking is also available.

**WHO:**

Speakers at the press conference include:

- Assembly Member Paul Koretz, Assembly Labor & Employment Committee Chair;
- Los Angeles City Councilmember Eric Garcetti;
- Christina Chung and Judy Marblestone, Asian Pacific American Legal Center;
- Rini Chakraborty, Sweatshop Watch; and
- Garment workers, who will share their experiences trying to recover wages under AB 633.

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