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For Immediate Release

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Washington D.C. - Congressman John P. Murtha, Chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, announced today that workers of Penn Mould Industries, Inc., who have become totally or partially separated from employment, are eligible for retraining or wage subsidies under federal programs designed to return trade-affected workers to the work force more quickly.

All workers of Penn Mould Industries, Inc., located in Washington, PA, who lose their job on or after April 29, 2007, are eligible for two years to apply for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) and Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance (ATAA).

An initial Department of Labor investigation that occurred in May denied Penn Mould employees TAA and ATAA eligibility. Upon further investigation, the Department of Labor concluded that layoffs at the company occurred because of a shift in production of molding equipment for glass containers to Columbia.

Services under TAA include two years of eligibility for income support, relocation and job search allowances, a health coverage tax credit and occupational training. For workers age 50 and older who find new, lower-wage jobs within 26 weeks of separation, ATAA helps bridge the salary gap by providing subsidies of up to half of the difference between the old and new wage levels. Workers may be paid up to a maximum of \$10,000 during a two-year eligibility period.