

Beat: Politics

TRADE UNION GENERAL SECRETARY SUSANNA CAMUSSO CALLS FOR PENSION LAW REFORM

A MEASURE THAT CAUSED UNEMPLOYMENT

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USPA NEWS - CGIL trade union general secretary Susanna Camusso marked Labor Day Friday by calling for reform of a 2011 pensions law she said was "rife with injustice" and the cause of unemployment.

Speaking at a Labor Day rally in the Sicilian port city of Pozzallo, Camusso noted that the Constitutional Court on Thursday struck down as illegitimate a section of the so-called Fornero law that froze the indexation of pensions worth three times the minimum pension.

The pensions cap "was an unjust rule and the Constitutional Court confirmed this," Camusso said. "We need to get our hands on the Fornero law, which is rife with injustice and one of the reasons for the increasing unemployment rate."

"We said at the time that it was a mistake," said Camusso. Italy's Constitutional Court rejected pension caps in the 'Save Italy' measures from 2011 that aimed at saving about 5 billion euros in government spending. The purpose of the measures announced by the emergency technocrat of ex-premier Mario Monti government was to "equalize" high pensions by suspending some inflation indexing so as to save - by some estimates - about 1.8 billion euros in 2012 and three billion euros in 2013. The measures were to affect only pensions greater than three times the minimum pension provided by national agency INPS.

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