LABOR

AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka dead at 72, sources say

Trumka had served as president of the federation for more than a decade and has been a close ally of the Biden White House.



Alex Brandon/AP Photo

By **REBECCA RAINEY** 08/05/2021 11:57 AM EDT

Richard Trumka, president of the powerful AFL-CIO labor organization, has died unexpectedly, two sources told POLITICO.

Trumka, 72, had served as president of the federation, which represents more than 12.5 million workers, for more than a decade and has been a close ally of the Biden White House.

Trumka died of what was believed to be a heart attack, a source familiar with the matter said. It was unclear when exactly it occurred though believed to have taken place either Wednesday evening or Thursday morning.

Staff at the AFL-CIO were informed of the death on Thursday morning.