

AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM UPTE/CWA LOCAL 9119



SEN. BARACK OBAMA WILL BRING CHANGE FOR WORKING FAMILIES

SEN. JOHN McCAIN WILL NOT

EMPLOYEE FREE CHOICE ACT

SUPPORTS EMPLOYEE FREE CHOICE ACT. Obama co-sponsored and voted for the Employee Free Choice Act, which would restore workers' freedom to form unions and bargain for better wages, benefits and working conditions without employer harassment. Obama says, "It's not a matter of if, it's a matter of when" the bill will be passed. (H.R. 800, Vote 227, 6/26/07; *Chicago Tribune*, 3/4/07)

'STRONGLY OPPOSED' TO EMPLOYEE FREE CHOICE ACT. McCain said he is "strongly opposed" to this important effort to level the playing field for workers trying to form unions. He voted against the Employee Free Choice Act, which would help save the middle class, and for a national "right to work" for less law that would attempt to eliminate unions altogether. (*Congressional Record*, page S8389, 6/26/07; H.R. 800, Vote 227, 6/26/07; S. 1788 Vote 188, 7/10/96)

HEALTH CARE

HEALTH CARE FOR ALL. Obama's health care plan would provide affordable, high-quality coverage for all and would guarantee coverage for those who change jobs or have pre-existing medical conditions. (Campaign website; Speech in Iowa City, Iowa, 5/29/07)

INSURANCE COMPANIES OVER WORKING FAMILIES. McCain wants to tax our health care benefits and push workers into the private market where insurance companies can charge whatever they want and refuse to cover people with pre-existing conditions like cancer. He also plans to give the top 10 health insurance companies \$1.9 billion in tax breaks. (Health08.org, Forum, 10/31/07; *Los Angeles Times*, 11/20/07; Center for American Progress, 4/9/08)

RETIREMENT SECURITY

PROTECTS OUR RETIREMENT. Obama will protect Social Security from benefit cuts and will not raise the retirement age. He voted against benefit cuts in the U.S. Senate and strongly opposes privatization. He also wants to give seniors making less than \$50,000 a tax cut. (*Quad-City Times*, 9/21/07; S.C.R. 18, Vote 49, 3/15/05; S.Amdt. 144 to S.C.R. 18, Vote 47, 3/15/05)

WANTS TO PRIVATIZE SOCIAL SECURITY. McCain said he is "totally in favor" of risky personal savings accounts. He strongly supported President Bush's efforts to privatize Social Security and has voted for similar measures multiple times. His chief economic aide also has said McCain will not rule out raising the retirement age or reducing cost-of-living adjustments. (*Wall Street Journal*, 3/3/08; S.C.R. 83, Vote 68, 3/16/06; S.Amdt. 489 to S.C.R. 21, Vote 89, 3/22/07; S.C.R. 86, Vote 56, 4/1/98; S.C.R. 86, Vote 77, 4/1/98)

TRADE AGREEMENTS

OPPOSES UNFAIR TRADE DEALS. Obama wants to close corporate tax loopholes so we don't reward corporations for sending our jobs overseas and only enter trade agreements with strong labor protections. He voted against CAFTA and supports extending Trade Adjustment Assistance to help workers who lose their jobs due to bad trade deals. (Obama speech at Building Trades Conference, 4/15/08; Cleveland Democratic Debate, NBC, 2/26/08; S. 1307, Vote 170, 6/30/05; Obama Remarks, Raleigh, N.C., 6/9/08; Obama for America website)

THINKS NAFTA WAS A 'GOOD IDEA.' McCain voted for NAFTA and said, "I know NAFTA was a good idea." He has repeatedly voted for unfair trade deals and supported tax breaks for companies that ship jobs overseas. He also voted to weaken and waive Buy American laws that keep jobs here at home. (*Des Moines Register* and *www.BigThink.com* interview, 11/07; H.R. 3450, Vote 395, 11/20/93; H.R. 4444, Vote 251, 9/19/00; S. 1637, Vote 83, 5/5/04; S. 2400, Vote 135, 6/22/04; S. 1050, Vote 191, 5/21/03)



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