

## What we have fought for:

The UAW has been at the forefront of fighting for progressive social change. Our fight for working families has included:

**Auto loans:** government loans to GM and Chrysler in 2009 saving 1.5 million jobs

**Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act:** gave workers legal recourse against employers who had long histories of discrimination in pay

**Family Medical Leave Act:** entitles eligible employees to take unpaid, job-protected leave for specified family and medical reasons

**The Recovery Act:** cushioned the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression. The law saved or created 3.5 million jobs and laid a new foundation for economic growth

**State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP):** largest public expansion of insurance coverage for children in the US since Medicaid began in the 1960s

**Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform:** brought significant changes to financial regulation in the US to help prevent future economic crises and protect consumers from predatory lending.

**Student loan reform:** lowers monthly payments on student loans and provides increased funding to Pell Grant scholarships

**The Affordable Care Act:** increases insurance coverage for millions of Americans and reduces healthcare costs for working families and seniors

**Increasing fuel economy standards (CAFE):** introduced new fuel efficiency standards, kick starting innovation and new technology in the auto industry

## How to get involved

- Take part in CAP programs in your local union and Region
- Help in voter registration drives and Get-Out-the-Vote programs
- Participate in the election of CAP-endorsed candidates
- Give to V-CAP through checkoff or fund drives
- Contact your representatives—remind them that they work for you
- Register and vote!



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# UAW National CAP

Working  
for a Just  
Democracy



## What is CAP?

The Community Action Program (CAP) of the UAW is the union's non-partisan political arm. CAP educates members on political issues that affect them and their families, registers members to vote, and works to elect politicians who stand with working Americans. CAP is about more than just labor – it's about building strong communities where all are treated with fairness and dignity. As part of this effort, CAP endorses candidates who have a record of backing legislation that supports unions and addresses issues facing working families. CAP is not tied to any political party and over the years has stood with Democrats, Republicans, and Independents.

Endorsements are made after consideration by UAW members through their Regions or CAP Councils.

## What we're fighting for:

Workers have long known that there is a strong link between the ballot box and the bread box. Gains won at the bargaining table can be easily wiped out through bad legislation voted on by elected officials. CAP's goal is to ensure that those who represent us

understand and fight for what the working class needs in order to thrive. This includes:

- protecting our right to collectively bargain
- protecting Social Security and Medicare
- fair tax laws
- adequate funding for public education
- ensuring that all workers, regardless of country of origin, are treated with respect and dignity

Political attacks against organized labor are becoming more and more frequent. Part of CAP's goal is to bring truth to these attacks and educate our members as to who is behind them.

## What CAP does:

- Helps members and their families register to vote
- Distributes voting records of elected officials and helps members and their households learn about political issues so they can make informed decisions at the ballot box
- Endorses candidates based on their voting records and support of working families
- Organizes political volunteer work in states and communities where members are present

- Conducts annual voluntary drives asking members to contribute to UAW Voluntary Community Action Program (V-CAP)
- Contributes to endorsed federal and state candidates from voluntary funds raised in V-CAP drives
- Urges all members and their families to vote in local, municipal, statewide and federal elections

## What CAP does *not* do:

- Tell anyone how to vote
- Force anyone to contribute to V-CAP
- Use dues money for contributions to federal candidates
- Force anyone to become involved in its programs or volunteer activities

