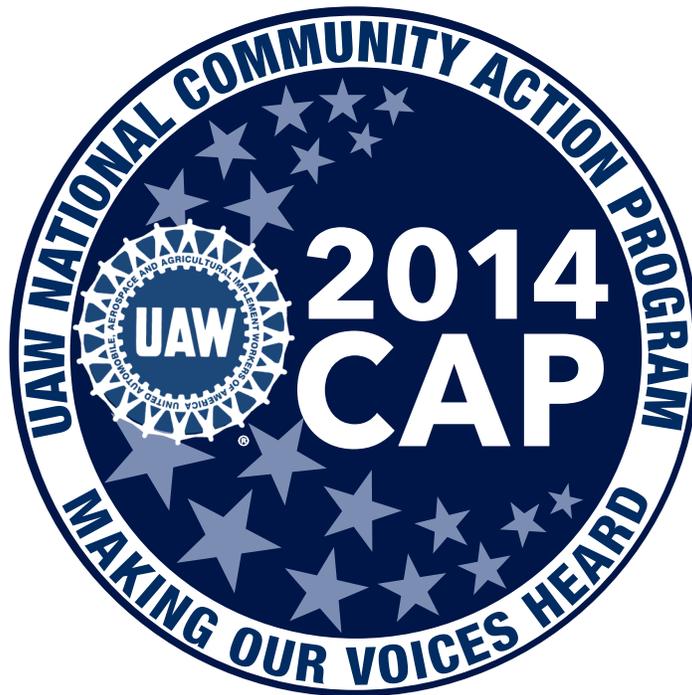


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**UAW National Community Action Program (CAP)
Washington, D.C. Feb. 2-5, 2014**

Health Care

For decades, the UAW has advocated for universal health care coverage to ensure that every man, woman and child in our country has access to quality, affordable health care. No one should get their care in an emergency room because they could not afford to see a regular doctor. No one should face financial ruin because of a serious illness. And no one should ever have their insurance canceled because they got sick. Despite being the most expensive health care system in the developed world, more than 50 million Americans went without health insurance every day, and many were denied coverage for pre-existing conditions.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA), signed into law in March 2010, is moving into a new phase this year with the opening of the insurance marketplaces (or exchanges). The law is not perfect, but it is a major step in the right direction. The UAW would have preferred to see a single-payer system (like our own Medicare system). The well-publicized problems with the rollout of the exchanges should not distract from the real impact.

ACA has already improved millions of Americans' access to high-quality, affordable health care:

- Reduction in and the eventual closing of the Medicare prescription drug "doughnut hole."
- Successful implementation of the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program (ERRP), which helped employers continue coverage for millions of pre-Medicare retirees.
- Increase in the number of Americans eligible for preventative services.
- 3.1 million young adults who are now covered under their parents' plan.



- 17 million children with a pre-existing condition guaranteed health care.
- At least 80 percent of premium actually being spent on health care, instead of CEO bonuses or profits, resulting in refunds for 77.8 million people.
- Insurers banned from raising their rates by 10 percent or more without having to explain and justify the increases.

There is no question that the ACA achieves many of our union's long-standing goals. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that 7 million people will be covered in the state and federal insurance exchanges and 9 million more by expanded state Medicaid programs in 2014.

What's at stake for UAW members?

The cost of health care is an issue whenever UAW members sit down to bargain with employers. In many of our workplaces, rising health care costs are squeezing out wage increases; in others, members are being forced to shoulder more of the cost of their coverage in the form of higher premium contributions, deductibles and copays. We all have a stake in reforming our dysfunctional health care system to bring down costs, improve the quality of care and guarantee universal coverage.

While most UAW members continue to get health care coverage through their employers, and not from the new insurance marketplaces established by the ACA, other parts of the health care reform law are having a positive impact on our health and our pocketbooks. Children can now stay on their parents' plans until they turn 26 – a boon to many members and their families. Annual and lifetime limits on benefits are a thing of the past. Insurers are now required to cover recommended preventive services with no out-of-pocket costs for the patient. New hires must be added to employer plans after 90 days. And

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UAW retirees who rely on Medicare Part D for their prescription drugs are getting help with the notorious “doughnut hole” coverage gap, which will be closed completely by 2020. Attacks on the ACA threaten to undo these protections.

UAW members, both active and retired, also have a big stake in maintaining and strengthening the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Proposals to cut Medicare benefits – including raising the eligibility age from its current level of 65 – would be devastating to retirees who do not have other coverage through their employer or a Voluntary Employee Beneficiary Association (VEBA). For those who do, these proposals are a cost shift that will weaken VEBA finances and lead more employers to try to drop retiree coverage.

The Medicaid program, which provides coverage for the poor, is also a vital safety net for millions of middle-class families who have exhausted their resources paying for nursing homes and other long-term care. Medicaid is the single largest payer for long-term care in the United States, picking up roughly 40 percent of the total \$357 billion cost.

Background on the issues

Affordable Care Act

The ACA has been the target of right-wing attacks since it was first proposed in 2009. After repeatedly trying and failing to repeal it by normal legislative means, Tea Party Republicans in the House of Representatives went so far as to shut down the federal government and push the country to the brink of default in an unprecedented effort to nullify a law that had passed both houses of Congress, been signed by the President, judged constitutional by the Supreme Court and reaffirmed by voters in a presidential election.

The ACA is unquestionably a complicated law. That is because our health care system is complicated. Most Americans get health insurance through their employer, something that will not change under the ACA. Many others rely on public programs, such as Medicare and Medicaid; some buy individual policies on their own; and far too many (48 million in 2012) have no coverage at all. The ACA seeks to build on the strengths of our system and fix its biggest weaknesses. In particular,

it creates a functioning individual insurance market to meet the needs of Americans who previously fell through the cracks: those who are lacking employer coverage but too young for Medicare and not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid.

Key components of the law include:

- Reforming the insurance industry to end abusive and discriminatory practices, such as charging women higher rates than men or canceling coverage when someone is diagnosed with a serious illness. Insurers are now required to spend at least 80 percent of premium dollars on medical care (including activities to improve the quality of care), and not on excessive overhead.
- Establish basic standards for benefits. All insurance policies – those sold on the new insurance marketplaces, group coverage purchased by employers, and self-insured employer coverage – now pay for recommended preventive and screening services in full, with no out-of-pocket costs. And plans can no longer cut off coverage when an individual reaches an annual or lifetime maximum.
- Bringing down the cost of small-group coverage. Lacking the purchasing clout of large companies, small employers and their workers faced particularly high costs in the pre-reform insurance market. Typically, this meant that workers at small companies paid high costs for inadequate coverage – if they had any at all. Under the ACA, small employers can now purchase insurance at competitive rates through the new insurance marketplaces.
- Requiring that large employers who fail to insure their workers pick up some of the costs, instead of shifting them onto taxpayers and more responsible employers. While the law does not include a mandate that employers must provide insurance, it imposes a “shared responsibility” penalty on those that don’t step up. This will be the first time that irresponsible employers have been required to bear any of the costs they create. (Originally scheduled

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to take effect this year, this provision has been postponed until 2015.)

- Requiring that individuals maintain health insurance coverage or pay a “shared responsibility” tax penalty (with exceptions for cases of financial hardship). The “individual mandate” is the ACA provision most seized-upon by the law’s opponents. However, with a system in place to make insurance available and affordable, the “right” to decline coverage is really the right to shift costs onto others. It’s also worth noting that some of the most widely popular provisions of the ACA, including the guarantee that no one can be denied coverage because of a pre-existing condition, would simply not work if individuals could wait until they were sick or injured to enroll.
- Expanding Medicaid coverage to all low-income individuals and families. Eligibility for Medicaid varies widely from state to state; not only do income requirements differ, but in many places, childless adults are ineligible no matter how low their income. The ACA used federal funds to encourage states to adopt uniform eligibility standards, covering low-income individuals (up to 133 percent of the poverty level) regardless of their family status. Unfortunately, this portion of the law was seriously weakened by the Supreme Court, which ruled that states’ Medicaid funding could not be made contingent on program expansion. In the wake of the Court’s decision, a number of Republican-dominated states declined to take up the initial 100 percent federal funding (stepping down to 90 percent in 2020 and beyond) to expand the program.
- Improving Medicare benefits. Medicare beneficiaries can now receive mammograms, colonoscopies and other recommended screening procedures at no out-of-pocket cost. Seniors in the Part D “doughnut hole” – where prescription drug coverage stops, resuming only when costs exceed a threshold level – are already getting additional help with their drug costs. By 2020 the doughnut hole will be closed completely.

An astonishing number of myths have circulated about the ACA: from the infamous “death panels” to a 3.8 percent tax on home sales (later replaced by stories of a 2.3 tax on sporting goods) to bogus noncompliance penalties to secret IRS databases and even implanted microchips. Laughable as many of these myths are, they have taken hold in chain emails and on social media, causing many otherwise sensible people to worry about the law’s impact. When given the facts about specific ACA provisions, however, most Americans support them.

We will continue to work to defend the ACA, building on its reforms and fixing its problems. In particular, the so-called “Cadillac tax” on high-cost health plans, scheduled to take effect in 2018, remains a concern and we working to prevent the tax from being implemented.

Health Insurance Marketplaces (Exchanges)

This year, for the first time, uninsured Americans will be able to purchase coverage through the insurance marketplaces that are the centerpiece of the ACA. By creating a functioning market for individual coverage for those who aren’t covered by an employer plan (or whose employer’s plan is unaffordable), it is now easier for previously uninsured Americans to purchase coverage. No one can be turned away or charged higher rates because of a pre-existing condition, and the practice of age rating (charging higher premiums based on age) is limited. Rolling out the insurance marketplaces was a major undertaking, complicated by the refusal of many Republican-dominated states to cooperate in the process. Not surprisingly, there were hiccups and glitches when the online marketplaces launched in October. Many of the reported problems were the result of overwhelming interest as the uninsured rushed to see their options and enroll. Not only were premiums surprisingly affordable – less than most experts had expected – but premium subsidies further reduced the cost for many enrollees with incomes up to 400 percent of the federal poverty level (\$94,200 for a family of four).

Health Care

Medicare

It is true that health care spending is the largest driver of future deficit projections. The problem isn't Medicare, however; it's the broader cost of U.S. health care, which is by far the highest in the world. Cutting Medicare benefits won't lower the burden of health care costs on our economy. It just shifts them onto seniors and middle-class families. In fact, some proposed Medicare changes – such as increasing the Medicare eligibility age above its current level of 65 – would actually increase the total cost of providing health care. That's because the cost of coverage through employers, VEBAs and the individual market is generally higher than the cost through Medicare.

Proposals to raise the Medicare eligibility age are of particular concern to the UAW because of the impact this change would have on negotiated retiree coverage and the finances of VEBA trusts. When a retiree becomes eligible for Medicare, that program becomes their primary insurance, supplemented by employer (or VEBA) coverage. Raising the eligibility age to 67, for example, would require employers or the VEBA to pay the full cost of coverage for an additional two years. This would increase the already intense pressure on retiree health insurance.

In the spring of 2012 House Republicans again passed a budget proposal that would turn Medicare into a voucher program. Their proposal would undermine affordable and accessible health care and would undoubtedly force many seniors to pay more. Fortunately, the proposal was blocked in the Senate. However, it once again illustrates the dangers we face.

There are sensible ways to reduce Medicare costs and strengthen the program's finances without harming beneficiaries. An example would be requiring Medicare to negotiate the cost of drugs with the drug manufacturers, just as the Veterans Administration already does.

Key talking points and actions you can take

- The ACA has already benefited millions of Americans. The number of young adults who are uninsured has fallen dramatically, thanks

to the ability of parents to keep children on their plans until they turn 26. More than 6.6 million Medicare beneficiaries in the “doughnut hole” have received help with prescription drug costs. Many others have benefited from free preventive care and the elimination of annual and lifetime benefit limits.

- According to the CBO, from 2016 on, when the impact of the ACA law is fully felt, some 25 million currently uninsured Americans are expected to have health care coverage.
- States that are refusing to expand their Medicaid programs to cover all low-income people are leaving federal funds on the table – and leaving their citizens in the cold. The longer they delay, the more federal dollars they forfeit.
- Raising the Medicare eligibility age doesn't save money, it just shifts costs onto families and employers. In fact, by shifting costs away from a huge, highly efficient public program and onto smaller payers and for-profit companies, it actually increases the nation's total health care bill.
- Raising the Medicare eligibility age would weaken the VEBA trusts that UAW retirees from Ford, General Motors and Chrysler rely on for their health care. It would also encourage still more employers to cut back on retiree coverage.
- **ACTION:** Educate yourself on the ACA and provide friends and family with the truth about the law – expose myths and fear-mongering for what they are.
- **ACTION:** Tell your members of Congress to oppose efforts to delay, defund or otherwise weaken the ACA.
- **ACTION:** Tell Congress to oppose cuts in Medicare benefits, reject efforts to increase the eligibility age, shift costs to seniors, and turn Medicare into a voucher program.
- **ACTION:** Tell Congress to oppose cuts in Medicaid benefits. If you live in a state that has so far failed to expand its Medicaid program to cover all low-income citizens, tell your governor and state legislators to expand it.

Energy and the Environment

From extreme weather events that have devastated entire communities to the threat that imported oil poses to our national security to polluted air, despoiled land and oil-slicked waters, we all have a role to play in reducing America's use of fossil fuels.

What's at stake for UAW Members?

Acting as though climate change is not real puts our country on an unsustainable course. It doesn't just threaten our security and our planet – it is also a direct threat to our jobs, and an even bigger threat to the jobs of our children and grandchildren.

As other countries race to develop renewable energy sources, they are investing in technologies that will create new industries and new manufacturing jobs. If we fail to rise to the challenge, we will be ceding the jobs of the future to our trading partners.

Background on the issue

There is no scientific debate on the connection between fossil fuel consumption, rising carbon dioxide levels in the Earth's atmosphere, and climate change. Climate change is real, and is caused by human activity. Climate scientists continue to research the impact of carbon emissions on our planet, but even the best case models are sobering – and the worst are catastrophic. According to the latest report from the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, sea levels could rise as much as 3 feet by the end of this century if carbon emissions remain unchecked. Many scientists consider that estimate conservative; even so, a rise of this magnitude imperils coastal cities around the world. By mid-century, just a few decades from now, devastating storm surges like those that followed Superstorm Sandy in 2012 would become regular occurrences.

Our dependence on imported oil from volatile regions of the world also threatens our national security. In 2012, even with domestic oil production at its highest level since 1995, the United States still imported 3.1 billion barrels of crude oil, about half of it from Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) members in Africa, South America and the Middle East. Wars, terrorism and international politics make

that dependence risky. In the past, the mere threat of supply disruptions has led to jumps in prices that squeezed consumers and slowed our economy. More domestic drilling won't insulate us from these global market forces. Chants of "drill, baby, drill" ignore the fact that U.S. oil reserves are dwarfed by those in other countries; what proponents of unlimited drilling are really calling for is to drain our own resources faster. That is no way to achieve energy independence. And, of course, relying on ever-dirtier and harder-to-extract sources of fossil fuels will only add to carbon emissions and accelerate climate change.

In contrast, energy efficiency and renewable energy sources offer a path to energy independence that is also environmentally sustainable and economically beneficial. To see how policies to reduce fossil fuel consumption can support good jobs, look no further than the auto industry. In 2012, after extensive discussions that involved environmental advocates, manufacturers and the UAW, the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency finalized new Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards to raise the average fuel economy of passenger vehicles sold in the United States to the equivalent of 54.5 miles per gallon by 2025, double the 2010 standard. By providing regulatory certainty, the 2017-2025 standards have already spurred investments in new products that employ thousands of UAW members. They will also save 2 billion metric tons of carbon pollution, reduce oil consumption by 2 million barrels a day, and save a typical consumer \$8,000 in fuel costs over the life of his or her vehicle.

In May 2011, the Obama administration also finalized the first-ever fuel economy and emission standards of heavy-duty trucks, buses, and vans for model years 2014-2018. It is estimated that those standards will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 270 million metric tons and save 530 million barrels of oil, while cutting consumer and industry fuel costs by nearly \$50 billion.

The administration is now taking the next steps to finalize the more ambitious second-stage rule, concerning standards for model years beyond 2018. President Obama wants to finalize heavy truck rules as part of his climate change/energy agenda. We are working in support of a sensible

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standard that will create jobs and better protect the environment. It is important that we strike the right balance by putting in place rules that allow the industry to grow while strengthening fuel efficiency and emission standards. We also support the Renewable Fuels Standard, which is the use of ethanol and other renewable fuels blended into the nation's gas supply.

There is no reason this positive experience cannot be replicated in other industries. Initiatives to improve energy efficiency and develop sustainable energy sources can spur technological innovation that creates new jobs for American workers. Our trading partners see the economic potential of green energy; China, in particular, has identified it as a strategic emerging industry and made it a cornerstone of its manufacturing policy. If we fail to do the same, we will find ourselves exporting jobs instead of clean energy goods and services.

Key talking points and actions you can take

- Climate change caused by carbon pollution is real. There's no longer any serious scientific debate about that. It's true we don't know

exactly what the impact will be. We don't know how high the oceans will rise, which coastal cities will be flooded, which agricultural regions will be turned into dustbowls, but even the best case scenarios are troubling (and the worst case scenarios are catastrophic). In these circumstances, acting to reduce carbon pollution is the prudent thing to do.

- Other countries are investing in sustainable energy and other green technologies. If we fail to do the same, we'll find ourselves left behind and lose out on the opportunity to develop new industries that could provide good jobs for U.S. workers.
- New fuel economy standards for the auto industry show that when stakeholders work together in good faith, workers, consumers and the environment can all benefit.
- **ACTION:** Support sensible fuel economy and emission standards of heavy-duty trucks, buses, and vans for phase two.
- **ACTION:** Support the greater use of corn-based ethanol to reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

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The battle over the federal budget is really a battle over the kind of country we want to be. The UAW's budget priorities reflect our commitment to social and economic justice. We support funding for human needs, public investments in education and infrastructure, strong enforcement of workplace protections and programs to put Americans back to work at decent wages – all paid for through a fair and progressive tax system.

Unfortunately, many right-wing members of the 113th Congress have a different view. Right-wing Republicans want to slash federal spending on programs that benefit working people while handing tax breaks to corporations and millionaires. In October, under the sway of Tea

Party extremists, Congressional Republicans went so far as to shut down the federal government for 16 days, forcing hardship for millions of Americans and costing the economy more than \$24 billion. They also threatened to default on the nation's debt unless radical and damaging spending cuts – including defunding the Affordable Care Act – were implemented. President Obama and Congressional Democrats did not give in to these blackmail tactics, and the shutdown ended with a resolution to fund the federal government at current levels through Jan. 15. The debt ceiling was raised through early February.

In December, the House and Senate passed a budget deal for the next two years. This agreement raised discretionary spending by \$63 billion over



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the next two years and increase the sequester-set level of \$967 billion to \$1.012 trillion this year and to \$1.014 trillion the following year. The \$1.012 trillion number was a compromise that represents a middle ground about halfway between the Senate budget level of \$1.058 trillion and the House budget level of \$967 billion.

The deal averted sequester cuts that are harmful to many of our programs such as defense, Legal Services, and Head Start; and there were no beneficiary cuts to Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security and food assistance programs. However, the agreement contains quite a few unfavorable provisions and does not take the steps needed to fix the economy and create jobs. The UAW was deeply disappointed that the deal includes an increase in single employer premiums paid to the Pension Guaranty Benefit Corporation (PBG). In addition, it contains a 1.3 percent increase in retirement contributions from federal employees hired after Dec. 31, 2013 and does not include any new tax increases on the wealthiest Americans or corporations and did not extend Emergency Unemployment Compensation and 1.3 million Americans lost their benefits on Dec. 28, 2013.

After the House and Senate passed the budget agreement, appropriators from each chamber are working fund programs under the new budget caps.

In coming budget fights, the UAW will continue to advocate for a budget that reflects our union's values.

What's at stake for UAW members?

Every UAW member has a direct stake in the federal budget. For many UAW members, decisions on the federal budget determine whether they will be working, laid off, or facing demands for concessions from their employer. Budget uncertainty threatens the job security of UAW workers at employers that supply the Department of Defense and other federal agencies. Cuts in federal support for the National Institutes of Health mean fewer positions for UAW postdoctoral scholars doing groundbreaking research in university labs, while attacks on funding for the Legal Services Corporation and Federal Defenders would eliminate the jobs of UAW-represented

attorneys and support staff. Members who work in state and local government across the country have been hit hard by shrinking federal aid.

Programs like Head Start, Pell Grants, and enforcement of workplace health and safety and wage and hour regulations make a positive difference in the lives of working families.

Social insurance and safety net programs like Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, unemployment insurance and food stamps provide a basic level of security and dignity for UAW members and all Americans. Without Social Security, 22 million seniors and disabled Americans, including many UAW members, would fall below the poverty line. At a time when employers are dropping health care coverage for their retirees, a strong Medicare program is more essential than ever. So is Medicaid; the federal/state health insurance program for the poor also pays for roughly 40 percent of long-term care costs in this country. Without the safety net provided by Medicaid, UAW families already agonizing over a parent with Alzheimer's disease or a child with a devastating disability would face financial ruin.

Revenues are the other end of the budget equation, and the issue of tax fairness hits UAW families directly in the pocketbook. When corporations and the rich pay less, we pick up the difference.

Finally, our union has always looked ahead to future generations. If we care about the kind of country and world we are leaving our children and grandchildren, we need to increase federal investment in physical infrastructure, human capital and scientific knowledge.

Background on the issues

Budgets as moral documents

Budgets are moral documents. The federal budget shows what we as a society value and what we do not. Do we value work and workers? Do we believe that everyone, and not just the wealthiest, should share in the benefits of economic growth? How much are we prepared to invest today in health, education, infrastructure, scientific and

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medical research and other building blocks of future prosperity? Do we see the elderly, the sick and the poor as an economic burden, or as part of our community?

The hard numbers of the budget process make our values clear. When House Republicans voted to cut the Food Stamp program by \$39 billion over 10 years, they showed that they value tax breaks for hedge fund managers more than food for poor children. Proposals to increase military spending while cutting programs that help veterans make pledges to “support our troops” ring hollow. All too often, “pro-family” legislators support budgets that hurt pregnant women, young children, people with disabilities and families struggling in a tough economy. Looking at budgets as moral documents reveals the reality behind the political rhetoric.



Impact of the government shutdown

Shutting much of the federal government down for more than two weeks sent ripple effects through the economy. Unsure how long the shutdown would last, or when/if they would be paid, laid-off federal employees cut back on their spending and faced difficulty in paying bills. The closure of national parks hurt the travel industry. Home sales were put on hold because the IRS could not verify income for mortgage applications – and on and on. Economic analysts estimate the total reduction in economic growth at between 0.2 and 0.6 percentage points in the fourth quarter of the year. With the economy still climbing out of a deep recession, slower growth translates into lost jobs and higher unemployment.

Sequestration

The inability of Congress to agree on a budget that would balance spending cuts with revenue

increases has led to damaging, across-the-board spending cuts through a process known as sequestration. This process was set in motion by the Budget Control Act of 2011, which sidestepped an earlier threat by extremist members of the Republican caucus to default on the country’s debt. The Budget Control Act included steep spending cuts totaling more than \$900 billion over 10 years and committed Congress to come up with an additional \$1.2 trillion in deficit reduction; should it fail to do so, \$1.2 trillion in automatic cuts would be triggered at the beginning of 2013 (\$984 billion in actual program cuts, with the balance coming from reduced debt service costs). Though sequestration was devised as a worst-case scenario that would spur Congressional action, House Republicans refused to negotiate, and the automatic cuts took effect in March. A few programs, including Social Security, are protected from sequestration.

The attack on entitlements

Much of the current budget debate has focused on “entitlements.” These are programs like Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid, which must, by law, provide specific benefits to individuals who meet eligibility standards. That distinguishes them

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from discretionary programs, where Congress can cut funding at will. While the Republicans have done their best to turn “entitlement” into a dirty word, specific entitlement programs continue to receive strong support from voters. Public polling has consistently shown overwhelming opposition to cutting Social Security and Medicare benefits or privatizing the programs. Their universal structure makes them popular; it also reminds us that we are all in this together.

The UAW and our progressive allies have taken a strong position opposing cuts to Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid benefits. They must be off limits in the current budget debate.

In the case of Social Security, it is important to understand that the program does not (and by law, cannot) contribute a penny to the federal deficit. Social Security benefits are paid from the program’s own revenues, either the payroll tax or the accumulated assets of the Social Security Trust Fund. Should those revenues ever fall short – as may or may not happen at some point in the future – then benefits would have to be trimmed to bring spending in line with revenues. The program cannot borrow. (Minor changes in the program’s funding – such as lifting the cap on wages and salaries subject to the payroll tax – would reduce the possibility of a future shortfall. That is a separate issue from the debate over the budget.)

Unfortunately, Social Security cuts have been put on the table, through what is being framed as a technical change in the calculation of cost-of-living increases for beneficiaries, or “chained CPI.” Make no mistake about it, though: Reducing future cost-of-living increases is a benefit cut. Worse, it is one that compounds over time, so that the oldest beneficiaries (disproportionately women) will suffer the biggest cuts. The UAW strongly opposes any move to use the chained CPI to adjust Social Security benefits.

In the case of Medicare and Medicaid, the problem is not entitlement spending: It’s the broader cost of U.S. health care, which is one of the largest drivers of our deficit and the highest in the world. Cutting Medicare and Medicaid benefits will not lower the burden of health care costs on our economy. It would simply shift costs to seniors, middle class families and the rest of the health care system. In fact, some proposed

Medicare cuts – such as increasing the eligibility age – would actually increase the total cost of providing health care. That’s because the cost of coverage through employers, VEBAs and the individual market is generally higher than the cost through Medicare.

There are ways to reduce the costs of health care entitlement programs without harming beneficiaries. An example would be requiring Medicare to negotiate the cost of drugs with the drug manufacturers, just as the Veterans Administration already does.

Deficits and the debt

Since concerns about the federal deficit and the accumulated national debt have helped build support for damaging budget cuts, it’s more important than ever to understand what the deficit and debt do (and don’t) mean for our economy.

The federal budget deficit (or surplus) is the difference between annual revenues and annual expenditures. The national debt is the accumulated borrowing of the federal government over the years. In both cases, the absolute level – how many billions or trillions of dollars – matters less than the deficit/debt as share of the economy. A larger economy can sustain a larger debt.

The impact of federal deficits on the economy depends on the broader economic context. In a recession, deficits inject additional spending power into a lagging economy. That’s essentially the situation we are in now, which is why across-the-board spending cuts are undermining the recovery and slowing the rate of job growth. With the interest rates on U.S. Treasury securities low, there is no serious concern that federal borrowing is going to “crowd out” private investment.

In fact, although one would never know it from the political rhetoric on the right, the federal deficit is falling. The deficit for fiscal 2013 was the smallest since 2008 – as a percentage of the total economy, it was less than half its 2009 level (4 percent vs. 10.1 percent). The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office projects that it will continue to fall in fiscal 2014 and 2015.

Tax fairness

Raising adequate revenues in a fair way is essential to winning a budget that reflects our UAW

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values. Fairness requires that efforts to reduce future deficits focus on the revenue, rather than the spending, side of the equation. It also requires that those with the greatest ability to pay be asked to contribute the most. The lion's share of income gains over the past three decades has gone to the top 1 percent of the population; in fact, since 2009, 95 percent of the growth in U.S. incomes was captured by the top 1 percent. Asking these folks to kick in a bit more for the common good is hardly "class warfare."

At the beginning of last year, Congress took a long overdue first step toward greater tax fairness. Following long and difficult negotiations, Republicans eventually agreed to allow Bush-era tax cuts to expire for individuals making \$400,000 a year and over, and for couples making over \$450,000. This agreement allowed Democrats to pass legislation preserving current income tax rates for more than 99 percent of Americans. The law protected tax credits directly benefiting the middle class and working poor for the next five years. These include the Child Tax Credit, the Earned Income Tax Credit, and the new American Opportunity Tax Credit for higher education expenses.

Since most income of the very wealthy comes from capital ownership and capital gains rather than work, progressive reform also means taking on the tax code's preferential treatment of income from dividends and capital gains. The 2013 tax deal took a first step to narrow this discrepancy, increasing the rate on dividends and capital gains to 20 percent for incomes over \$400,000 (\$450,000 for couples). This is still significantly less than the rate on wage and salary income, creating gaping loopholes for the very wealthy – such as the "carried interest" provision that allows hedge fund managers to treat their compensation as investment income subject to a lower tax rate.

Tax fairness also means reversing the declining contribution of corporations to the federal treasury. Corporate income taxes as a share of total federal revenues have fallen from more than 25 percent in the 1950s to less than 10 percent today. Loopholes benefiting corporations that move work to other countries (such as the deferral of taxation of foreign profits) must be

closed, and proposals to expand these loopholes (such as shifting to a "territorial" tax system) rejected. A small tax on financial transactions could raise significant revenue while serving as a necessary "speed bump" for high-speed financial speculation.

Key talking points and actions you can take

- Budgets are moral documents – the fight over the federal budget is really a fight over the kind of country we want to live in and what we value as a society.
- Deficit reduction since the beginning of 2011 has relied too heavily on spending cuts (almost \$4 in cuts for every \$1 in new revenues); these cuts are already hurting working families and the poor. We need to focus on additional revenues to fund the programs working families need and deserve. Corporations and the wealthy have monopolized the benefits of economic growth in recent years, and can easily afford to pay more for the common good.
- Federal spending is not out of control. In fact, the federal deficit has fallen significantly and is on track to fall even more.
 - **ACTION:** Urge members of Congress to repeal the arbitrary, unfair and damaging sequester cuts.
- **ACTION:** Tell Congress absolutely "NO" cuts to Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security benefits. This includes opposing any proposals to increase the eligibility age for Medicare or Social Security.
- **ACTION:** Ask members of Congress to commit to progressive revenue sources like a robust estate tax and taxing capital gains and dividends like ordinary income.
- **ACTION:** Tell Congress that corporations must pay their fair share of taxes. Demand that they close loopholes that benefit companies that shift work overseas.
- **ACTION:** Build support in your community for a financial transactions tax that would raise revenue from Wall Street.



Defending Democracy

Overview

From the right to vote to majority rule, basic democratic principles are under attack. Last summer's Supreme Court decision striking down key portions of the Voting Rights Act was just the latest in a series of laws, legal rulings and legislative maneuvers that have narrowed the democratic rights of ordinary people and expanded power for the wealthy and well-connected.

What's at stake for UAW Members?

In a word: everything. Democracy is a principle we believe in, and one that UAW members have fought and even died for. We look to the democratic process to win political and legislative victories that make our lives better. In an increasingly unequal nation, democracy is the great equalizer: The vote of an hourly worker counts the same as the vote of a billionaire boss. Through our votes, we can elect pro-worker candidates and then hold them accountable. That's how we won Social Security, the minimum wage and stronger workplace health and safety laws.

But by keeping working people from exercising their right to vote – whether through arbitrary identification requirements, reduced voting hours, barriers to voter registration or long lines at the polls – the wealthy and powerful can block reforms, such as a higher minimum wage and a fairer tax system, that threaten their privileged position. The same goes for gerrymandered districts that dilute the voting power of workers, the poor and people of color.

Likewise, when a minority of extremists in the Senate abuse procedural rules to block laws and presidential appointments, UAW members feel the impact. It was the threat of a Senate filibuster that killed the Employee Free Choice Act; stymied President Obama's job creation proposals; scrapped the Buffett Rule to ensure that millionaires pay at least the same tax rate as the middle class; and stripped the public option from health care reform. By blocking the confirmation of nominees to the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), a small number of senators

came close to crippling the board by denying it a quorum. If they had succeeded, workers fired for trying to organize would have had no recourse and employers would have faced no consequences for refusing to bargain in good faith.

The increased role of money in politics is especially troubling. Money in politics reinforces the economic power of corporations and the 1%, so that instead of providing a democratic check and balance, the political process becomes one more way for the wealthy to rig the economy in their favor. We need campaign finance reform to ensure that our voices – not their dollars – are heard in debates that matter to UAW families.

Background on the issues

The right to vote

In a 5-4 decision June, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a key part of the 1965 Voting Rights Act, freeing nine states to change their election laws and district maps without federal oversight. The consequences were immediate. The state of Texas quickly announced that it would proceed to implement a restrictive voter ID law that had been blocked. Other states and localities that share a long history of discriminatory voting restrictions and manipulated district lines have followed suit. While voting rights advocates can still challenge such policies after the fact, the withdrawal of federal oversight has opened the door to a new wave of anti-democratic practices.

The Supreme Court's decision could not have come at a worse time. Since 2011, our country has witnessed some of the most extreme voter suppression attempts in decades. A dozen states have passed voter ID laws intended to put obstacles in the path of potential voters. Citing (but never documenting) the threat of voter fraud, these measures selectively target certain groups. Requirements to produce current, government-issued photo identification at the polls fall hardest on young people, seniors, and urban residents who are less likely to have a driver's license or who move frequently.

Other attempts to narrow our democracy have

Defending Democracy

targeted the voter registration process. According to the Brennan Center for Justice, at least 51 million voting-age Americans are not registered to vote. That is equivalent to losing the entire voting population of California, New York, and Texas combined. A disproportionate number of these missing voters are people of color: 37 percent of eligible African-Americans and 48 percent of eligible Latinos are not registered. Unlike most democracies, in which citizens are automatically eligible to vote, the United States puts the burden on individuals to follow registration requirements that vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction and are, in the words of a bipartisan 2001 commission, “among the world’s most demanding.” Instead of working constructively to streamline voter registration, a number of states have imposed new restrictions on community voter registration drives. After Florida passed a harshly restrictive law in 2011, groups including the League of Women Voters, Rock the Vote and the NAACP were forced to abandon or curtail their voter registration efforts. Tea Party partisans in Ohio went even further, challenging the eligibility of hundreds of registered voters in an effort to purge them from voter lists.

Barriers to citizen participation abound. Limited voting hours and restrictions on absentee ballots make it harder for working people with inflexible schedules to get to the polls. Antiquated voting equipment produces long lines, especially in working-class precincts. The disenfranchisement of former felons – even though they have served their sentences – has an especially disparate impact, with an estimated 13 percent of African-American men excluded from voting because of a past conviction.

The fact that restrictions on voting fall most heavily on students, low-income people and people of color – rather than, say, hedge fund managers with homes in multiple jurisdictions – is no accident. Efforts to narrow participation (through voter ID laws, limits on early voting and onerous registration requirements) are intended to stack the electoral deck in favor of corporate interests and the 1%.

When Americans do make it to the voting booth, many find their votes diluted by arbitrary

district lines. Highly partisan redistricting plans have weakened representation of workers and people of color while protecting entrenched interests. The 2012 election is a good example of anti-democratic redistricting at work. More Americans voted for Democratic than Republican candidates in U.S. House races, yet Republicans still came away with a 233-200 House majority.

Filibuster reform

Roadblocks to the democratic process extend to actual governmental bodies, most notably the U.S. Senate. The Republican minority in the Senate has exploited the filibuster and other procedural rules to grind legislative business to a halt. Since it takes 60 votes to end debate and bring a measure to a vote, a 40-member minority now has the power to hold the country hostage to an extreme, obstructionist agenda.

To give a sense of how extreme the abuse of the filibuster has become, there were more filibusters in 2009 and 2010 alone than in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s combined. Legislative gridlock led to a mounting backlog of unfilled judgeships and vacant executive positions. By November Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid had already filed 56 cloture motions to try to end Republican filibusters in 2013 alone (compare that with just one filibuster during Lyndon Johnson’s six years as majority leader in the 1950s). Over the past few years support for reform grew, prompting Majority Leader Reid to threaten to change the rules by a simple majority vote (the so-called “nuclear option”). While Reid’s threat led to a negotiated deal in July that finally broke the logjam on stalled nominations, including for members of the NLRB and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the broken rules that created the problem are still in place, but the abuse continued. As recently as November, Senate Republicans blocked the nomination for Rep. Mel Watt (D-N.C.) to head the Federal Housing Finance Agency and several judges to the important U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. At the end of November, Senate Democrats changed the rules of the Senate to eliminate the filibuster for all presidential nominees besides Supreme Court nominees. We strongly supported this change to the rules.

Defending Democracy

This reform of Senate rules and procedures will increase the Senate's ability to act on nominees through the process – in other words, to do the job the people elected their Senators to do. We will need to remain vigilant in our opposition to obstruction by right-wing extremists.

Money in politics

Money from corporations and wealthy individuals now plays a larger role in our political system than ever – often by way of shadowy and unaccountable political action committees (PACs) known as “Super PACs.”

The 2012 presidential race was the first federal election following the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Citizens United*, which found corporations to be “people” and equated money with free speech, opening the door to unlimited corporate contributions to political campaigns.

As a result, there was a wave of undocumented secret money into a system already dominated by large donors. In the presidential race, 61 large donors to Super PACs gave as much as the combined contributions of more than 1.4 million small donors. This imbalance in our campaign finance system reinforces broader imbalances of economic and political power. If we are to restore the voice of the average citizen, we must reduce the role of big money in politics.

Overturing *Citizens United* is an important first step. We also need greater transparency – for example, by requiring publicly traded corporations to disclose their political contributions and closing loopholes that allow nonprofit organizations and trade associations to make political expenditures without disclosing their donors.

Justice for all

In a democracy, justice shouldn't depend on a person's financial resources. UAW members employed by the Legal Services Corporation and Federal Defenders program provide low-income clients with access to the legal system. Legal services attorneys and support staff help tenants fight slumlords, save the homes of families victimized by predatory lenders and win orders

of protection in domestic violence cases. These services make the program a target for the wealthy and powerful, who have no interest in seeing the poor get a day in court (and, in some cases, a personal interest in denying them legal representation). Congressional Republicans have long pushed to eliminate all funding for the Legal Services Corporation. While those efforts have failed, the program is still facing steep cuts: Its fiscal 2013 funding level was down almost 20 percent from 2010. Inadequate funding has led to office closings and layoffs, jeopardizing access to the civil justice system for many low-income Americans.

Key talking points and actions you can take

- Inequality in our political system reinforces economic inequality. We need to broaden political participation by making it easier for citizens to vote and reducing the role of money in politics.
- Voter ID requirements, restrictions on early voting, long lines at the polls, and other barriers to voting are motivated by partisan politics, not by evidence of fraud.
- Our voter registration system is much more restrictive than that of other democratic countries. In states that allow same-day registration, the process works well.
- When we say the Pledge of Allegiance, we end with the words “justice for all.” Denying poor people access to the civil justice system by eliminating funding for the Legal Services Corporation and cutting funding for the Federal Defenders program is anti-democratic.
- **ACTION:** Oppose state-level voter suppression measures.
- **ACTION:** Urge Congress to support national election reform, including online and same-day voter registration; setting national standards for voting machines; and ending the disenfranchisement of felons who have served their sentences.
- **ACTION:** Urge the Senate to take action to curb abuse of the filibuster and obstruction.

Defending Democracy

- **ACTION:** Tell Congress to restore funding for the Legal Services Corporation and Federal Defenders.
- **ACTION:** Support campaign finance reform to limit the role of money in politics, and increased disclosure of corporate contributions.
- **ACTION:** Support V-CAP and encourage your co-workers to do so, too: Our combined contributions will help workers' voices be heard.
- **ACTION:** Bargain for time off for voting and support efforts to make Election Day a federal holiday.
- **ACTION:** Participate in voter registration drives in your workplace and community.

Higher Education and Research Funding



Overview

Our country is justifiably proud of its institutions of higher education, which attract students and researchers from around the world. Our culture is richer, our workplaces more productive and our economy more innovative because of the outstanding teaching that takes place in college and university classrooms. Research in university labs is leading to new treatments for deadly diseases, developing technologies that will be the basis for new jobs and new industries, finding cleaner ways to power our economy, and making other contributions to a healthier, more prosperous and sustainable future.

While our colleges and universities are an incredible national resource, they face growing

challenges that must be addressed. Reduced funding, skyrocketing tuition and a squeeze on academic workers by school administrations threaten the quality and accessibility of higher education, as well as the success of the academic research enterprise. Under the unfair and arbitrary sequester, steep cuts in the budgets of federal research institutes such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH) are having a particularly devastating impact on university-based researchers.

A union voice for the higher education workforce

The world-leading teaching and research conducted in our colleges and universities is



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increasingly done by low-paid workers with limited or no job security. Graduate teaching assistants and part-time or adjunct faculty, paid by the course, now represent 75 percent of total instructional staff. A growing share of academic research is conducted by graduate research assistants and postdoctoral scholars with short-term appointments. In fact, from 2004 to 2009, postdoctoral positions were the fastest growing category of employment for doctoral recipients in science and engineering.

Academic workers often carry the burden of low pay, limited benefits, and a lack of employment security. The continuing squeeze is making academic careers less and less attractive, and puts the long-term future of higher education and research at risk.

The key to improving conditions for academic workers is the right to organize and bargain collectively. We will continue to fight for bargaining rights for all academic workers.

What's at stake for UAW members?

More than 45,000 UAW members are academic workers across the United States, including graduate employees at the University of Massachusetts, New York University, University of Washington, University of California and California State University.

UAW members are employed in higher education as faculty, postdoctoral researchers, graduate student employees and clerical, technical and support staff. Ongoing organizing campaigns at colleges and universities mean that number will rise. For these workers, there's a direct connection between federal support for education and research and their wages, benefits and job security. Attacks by university administrators on the right to organize are denying workers in higher education a voice when they need it most.

It's not just workers employed directly in colleges and universities who have a stake in the future of our higher education system, but many UAW members are still paying off student loan debt. Others are struggling to make tuition payments; still others are looking ahead and worrying how they will afford ever-rising tuition bills when

their own children reach college age. With a post-secondary degree becoming an increasingly important credential, the cost and quality of higher education and the availability of student financial aid are key economic concerns for all working families.

Background on the issues Research funding

When the government shut down for more than two weeks in October, the impact of federal research spending on Americans' lives had a moment in the spotlight. Desperate patients were unable to enroll in clinical trials; new research came to a halt, including proposals that could hold the next advance in the war on cancer went unread and unacted on.

Even before the shutdown, the colleges and universities that carry out much of the research funded by the NIH and other federal research agencies were being starved of resources. Under sequestration, the NIH suffered a 5 percent (\$1.55 billion) cut in fiscal 2013. Since 80 percent of the NIH budget goes to outside researchers, most of them university-based, that translates into 640 fewer research grants. University labs have responded by cutting back on hiring plans, laying off researchers, and in some cases, closing altogether. A survey by one scientific association, the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, found that more than half its responding members had either laid-off or expected to layoff researchers as a direct result of declining federal funding levels.

This is short-sighted in the extreme. The investment of federal dollars in medical and scientific research has a high return, leading to innovations that benefit the entire country and support thousands of new jobs. Cuts in research funding hurt our long-term health and competitiveness. At the same time, many universities that receive federal funds have been squeezing the workers who do the actual research. Increasingly, these workers are not tenured faculty, but low-paid graduate

Higher Education and Research Funding

student employees and postdoctoral scholars in short-term positions.

Along with our strong support for increased research funding, we also call on federal agencies to ensure adequate pay and benefits for workers on federal grants.

Accessibility and Affordability

Increases in college costs have been far outstripping family incomes, making it a challenge for families to pay tuition bills. One result has been an explosion in student loan debt that is weighing down an entire generation of young workers. President Obama has worked aggressively to address this problem. Under his leadership the Pell Grant maximum was raised and the number of Pell Grant recipients expanded by 50 percent. The President has also made important improvements in the federal student loan program, from ending subsidies for private financial institutions and banks, to expanding income-based repayment plans and making millions of borrowers eligible to consolidate their loans at lower interest rates.

Although the Pell Grant program is not affected by the automatic sequestration cuts, it remains a target for Congressional Republicans. The budget plan put forward by House Budget Committee Chair Paul Ryan freezes the maximum grant at its current level for the next 10 years, allowing rising tuition costs to erode its value. It would also cut back on the number of students eligible to receive grants.

On student loans, a compromise signed into law in the summer prevented a doubling of interest rates that would have further squeezed student borrowers and their families. The compromise ties future rates to the market, while putting a ceiling on increases and giving borrowers the certainty of a fixed rate (i.e., rates are locked in at the time a loan is taken out). Republicans had been pushing for rates that could change from year to year over the lifetime of the loan.

Several UAW-supported provisions of the tax code help make higher education more accessible to working families. Thanks to the efforts of the UAW and a broad coalition of labor, business

and education groups, the Internal Revenue Code currently exempts employer-provided tuition assistance benefits from taxation. In addition, the American Opportunity Tax Credit assists families with the costs of college, providing up to \$10,000 for four years of college tuition for families earning up to \$180,000. Originally slated to expire at the end of 2012, negotiations over the “fiscal cliff” resulted in an extension through December 2017. This will allow over 9.4 million students and families to continue benefiting from the program each year and provide much-needed tuition relief for middle-class families.

Key talking points and actions you can take

- Academic research is an important driver of innovation and economic growth – it’s an investment in our future as a country.
- Cuts in federal research funding are putting research at America’s colleges and universities at risk.
- A college education is becoming increasingly important to economic success – but college tuition costs are increasing much faster than family incomes. Federal programs to make college accessible to working families need to be protected and expanded.
- The squeeze on academic workers is putting the quality of American higher education at risk. Workers in higher education need and deserve a union voice.
- **ACTION:** Tell Congress to increase federal support for basic research, including by repealing sequestration and its across-the-board cuts to federal research agencies.
- **ACTION:** Tell Congress to not to balance the budget on the backs of college students and their families.
- **ACTION:** Call on public officials at all levels to support the right of all academic workers – including graduate student employees – to organize and bargain collectively.

Immigration

Overview

Our immigration system is broken. The current system does not work for either native-born workers or immigrants. Instead, it gives unscrupulous employers a tool to create fear and division, depressing wages and weakening labor standards for all workers. Individuals seeking to immigrate to the United States face a slow and often arbitrary process that divides families and keeps out workers whose skills and commitment to our country would benefit us all. Out of fear of being deported, undocumented workers have little recourse against wage theft and other abuses.

Comprehensive immigration reform is at the top of President Obama's agenda for his second term. A bipartisan bill (S.744) passed the Senate on an overwhelming 68-32 vote in June, boosted by strong support from a broad coalition that included labor, business, immigrant rights activists, civil rights organizations and the faith community. However, House Republicans have refused to allow a vote to fix our broken system.

What's at stake for UAW Members?

There are an estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants in the United States. Even the most ardent opponents of immigration reform acknowledge that 11 million people are not going to leave a country that, for many, has been home for much of their lives. The real choice is between creating a responsible way for individuals to legalize their status and eventually become citizens, or keeping them in an underground economy where they can be exploited. When employers are able to flout wage and hour laws with impunity and use the threat of deportation



to keep workers from demanding their rights, it depresses wages and benefits throughout the economy. By removing the fear of deportation, immigration reform with a path to citizenship will strengthen our bargaining power with employers.

For many UAW members, what's at stake in immigration reform is direct and personal. Our broken immigration system

has split UAW families and thrown up barriers to family reunification. Many UAW members who work in higher education came here on student or temporary worker visas, and face an unnecessarily long, complicated and frustrating process when they try to become permanent residents and citizens.

UAW has long believed that unions had the power to improve the lives of all working-class Americans, and the potential to change the world for the betterment of all by following the path set forth by President Walter Reuther by advocating for civil rights for all.

Our union and our country both lose when immigrants eager to contribute are kept out by an outdated and arbitrary system.

Background on the issue

The Senate-passed bill provides a path by which undocumented immigrants can gain Registered Provisional Immigrant (RPI) status, authorizing them to live and work in the United States, and eventually acquire citizenship. The path to citizenship is not automatic, and it is not quick or easy. To qualify for RPI status, an undocumented immigrant must pay a \$1,000 fine, any back taxes owed and additional processing fees; they must also pass a thorough criminal background check. After 10 years, if existing green card backlogs have been cleared and various border security targets

Immigration

met, immigrants with provisional status can apply for permanent (green card) status. Transitioning to a green card requires more fees, an additional penalty of \$1,000, another background check and demonstrated knowledge of the English language and U.S. history and government. Only after going through this process and then waiting an additional three years can previously undocumented immigrants apply for full citizenship.

The bill passed by the Senate does include an expedited path for undocumented immigrants who were brought here as children under 16 – the young people who have become known as “DREAMers” because of their courage and determination to become full citizens of this country. An earlier executive order by President Obama temporarily lifted the threat of deportation for DREAMers who met the requirements of a rigorous application process (including educational requirements and/or military service and a clean criminal record), allowing them to live openly in the United States. Beneficiaries of this “Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals” (DACA) program will automatically receive registered provisional immigrant status and will not have to wait an additional three years for citizenship after receiving their green cards.

Other major provisions in the bill include:

- Significant increases in resources for border security, including more than 38,000 new border patrol agents, as well as requirements for a comprehensive Southern Border Security Strategy. These steps must be certified by the Department of Homeland Security before currently undocumented immigrants can apply for green cards and citizenship.
- A mandatory online employment verification system (E-Verify) to determine eligibility to work in this country. The new system, which will be phased in gradually, will be subject to regular assessments to flag problems and abuse, including discrimination and privacy violations. Individuals will have the right to correct mistaken determinations.
- Reforms of temporary worker visa programs, creating a more data-driven process based on

documented labor market needs and adding protections against employer abuses. Workers holding temporary visas (including H-1B visas for highly skilled workers in scientific and technical fields, a category that includes many UAW members employed as researchers at U.S. universities) will have greater freedom to change employers, and an easier time transitioning to permanent resident (green card) status and eventual citizenship.

- No limits on employment-based green cards for foreign students who graduate from American universities with advanced degrees in scientific and technical fields, along with other measures to liberalize visas for foreign students. These changes will benefit many UAW members employed as teaching and research assistants at colleges and universities.
- Changes in the family-based immigration system that will make it easier for the minor children and spouses of legal permanent residents to immigrate, but would also reduce the total number of visas available under the family preference system, and exclude some categories of relatives (including siblings of U.S. citizens).

The final Senate bill was the product of legislative compromises, and includes some provisions we are not thrilled about. Even so, it is a major improvement on our current broken system, and will help families and strengthen our economy.

To give a sense of the broad economic benefits of comprehensive immigration reform, the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy estimates that providing legal status to undocumented workers would increase state and local tax collections by \$2 billion a year. (Undocumented immigrants currently pay an estimated \$10.6 billion in state and local taxes.) Research published by the Center for American Progress projects a \$1.1 trillion gain to the U.S. economy over 10 years as undocumented workers attain citizenship.

House Republicans have blocked consideration of comprehensive reform. In fact, several House Republicans have urged Speaker John Boehner to not bring up any immigration bills for vote out of the fear it could lead to a negotiation with the Senate.

We continue to work with allies in support of



Immigration

comprehensive reform and urge the House to pass H.R. 15, which is modeled after the Senate bill.

Key talking points and actions you can take

- Our country's entire immigration system is broken, and comprehensive reform with a pathway to citizenship is needed to fix it.
- The 11 million people in this country without documents aren't going anywhere. Pretending they and their families can be made to leave is both cruel and unrealistic. The real choice is between keeping undocumented immigrants underground where they can be exploited, or creating a process for them to normalize their status and come out from the shadows.
- A pathway to citizenship isn't a

no-strings-attached amnesty. It requires undocumented immigrants to meet tough conditions and wait their turn behind other applicants.

- Attacks on immigrants create fear and division that drive down wages and working standards for all workers.
 - **ACTION:** Give friends, co-workers and neighbors the facts about immigration reform. Immigration is a tough issue for many Americans, and taking the time to engage in one-on-one conversations can dispel myths and win support for reform.
 - **ACTION:** Urge the House to immediately pass comprehensive immigration reform that includes a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants.

International Trade and Investment

Overview

We live in a global economy. International trade – imports and exports combined – accounts for roughly 30 percent of the U.S. economy. In 2013 foreign investors held more than \$25 trillion in U.S. assets, while U.S. investors held roughly \$21 trillion in assets in other countries. In this interconnected world, the issue is not whether one is “for” globalization or “against” it, but what form globalization will take. The UAW supports trade policies that strengthen, not weaken, worker and consumer rights domestically or abroad.

Unfortunately, NAFTA and many other existing trade agreements favor corporations and investors at the expense of workers, consumers and the environment. Misguided trade policies have made our trade imbalances worse, undermining domestic job creation. For example, our growing trade imbalance with China alone is estimated to have cost more than 2 million manufacturing jobs between 2001 and 2011. Fierce competition in the global auto industry means that workers in auto and auto parts are particularly vulnerable to unfair practices by our trading partners.

What's at stake for UAW members?

Many of the manufacturing industries in which UAW members work have been hit especially hard by bad trade policies. For generations, the Japanese auto market has been closed to virtually all imports from all countries. As a result, U.S. automakers have been shut out of Japan, and forced to compete on an uneven playing field in all other auto markets, as Japanese automakers have leveraged their advantages at home into advantages abroad.

The impact of trade policies is not limited to UAW members in manufacturing. Because manufacturing has extensive linkages to other sectors of the economy, job losses in manufacturing send ripples through the rest of the economy and weaken the tax base of our communities.

All UAW members also have a stake in ensuring that multinational corporations respect the rights of workers both here and abroad. Many international employers that negotiate with unions elsewhere are taking advantage of our weak labor laws to deny their U.S. workers that same right, undermining our ability to raise wage and benefit standards in our industries. At the same time, many U.S. employers are whipsawing their U.S.

International Trade and Investment

workers against workers in other countries. The growing importance of foreign investment to the U.S. economy and employment – especially, but not only, in auto – makes it more important than ever to include strong and enforceable worker rights provisions in international agreements. Japanese auto companies operating in the United States routinely deny their American workers democratic elections to decide on union representation. In order to participate in any trade process, Japanese automakers must abide by international treaties Japan has agreed to and they must respect a worker's right to make a choice for themselves in the United States.

Background on the issues

Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) free-trade negotiations

The United States and a number of other Pacific Rim nations, including Australia, Brunei, Chile, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, Japan, Canada, Mexico, Vietnam, and the United States, are currently in the process of negotiating a free-trade agreement known as the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). When and if an agreement is reached, it will be sent to Congress to ratify.

The UAW opposed Japan's inclusion in these talks because of its long history of protecting its domestic market with unfair trade barriers. That's particularly true in auto. Japan exports the majority of the vehicles it produces – and yet, despite being the third largest auto market in the world, its own market is essentially closed. Less than 6 percent of the vehicles sold in Japan are imported, compared with over 40 percent in most other developed markets. Under these circumstances, Japan's inclusion in the TPP threatens the progress we have made to strengthen the domestic auto sector.

Japan officially joined negotiations in July and did make some concessions as a condition of entry. It agreed in advance that any phase-out of U.S. tariffs would be "back loaded" to take place at the end of the phase-in period, with a "snap back" provision that would re-impose tariffs as a remedy in disputed settlements. It also agreed to

take measures to make its regulations, standards and certification process for imported vehicles more transparent and less onerous. However, these measures alone are not enough to level the unbalanced playing field or adequately mitigate the harm of reducing our tariffs on Japanese vehicles and parts (currently 2.5 percent on cars and most parts, 25 percent on trucks).

The UAW's position is that any phase-out of U.S. tariffs must be preceded by several decades and a genuine opening of the Japanese auto market, using a concrete benchmark of at least 20 percent market share for non-Japanese vehicles and parts before our tariffs are reduced. In addition, as part of the TPP discussions, Japanese automakers must guarantee that they will honor labor standards set by the International Labor Organization (ILO), the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC), and allow a fair, democratic process for workers to choose whether or not to be represented by a union.

Fast Track

Under fast-track authority (also known as trade promotion authority), trade agreements submitted to Congress for ratification are subject to an up-or-down vote and cannot be amended or filibustered. No major trade agreement has been approved without such authority in recent decades, and the Obama administration is seeking it for the TPP. However, fast track faces opposition in the House from both Republicans and Democrats. As of December, nearly half of House members have signaled they have deep concerns with fast track and are seeking changes to our trade laws.

The UAW is working with our allies to create an alternative proposal linked to strengthening our trade enforcement laws, improvements in Trade Adjustment Assistance for displaced workers, concrete steps to address currency manipulation, and other important measures.

Currency manipulation

By keeping the value of their currency artificially low, countries can create an artificial advantage for their own exports, while raising the cost of goods imported from other nations. A number of U.S. trading partners, including Japan and China,



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have engaged in this practice on many occasions in recent years.

Legislation has been introduced in both the House and Senate to strengthen the ability of the U.S. government to respond to trading partners who unfairly manipulate their currency. A bipartisan group of senators have introduced the Currency Exchange Rate Oversight Reform Act, which would strengthen U.S. trade laws to address the economic damage caused by currency manipulation and toughen enforcement action against countries that refuse to adopt policies to eliminate currency misalignment. A bipartisan companion bill, the Currency Reform for Fair Trade Act, has also been introduced in the House.

The UAW supports both these bills. We also call on the Obama administration to insist that any TPP agreement includes measures to combat currency manipulation.

TTIP

The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) is a free-trade agreement being negotiated between the European Union and the United States. After nearly two years of preparation, in mid-November, the United States and European Union held a second round of Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) talks in Brussels. The proposed deal would be the world's biggest free-trade deal, covering about 50 percent of global economic output, 30 percent of global trade and 20 percent of global foreign direct investment. The UAW is closely monitoring the negotiations.

Key talking points and actions you can take

- The UAW supports fair-trade agreements with strong protections for workers, consumers and the environment.
- Japan's participation in the Trans-Pacific Partnership threatens to derail the domestic auto industry's recovery. Japan must play agree to fair trade in the auto sector and a level playing field.
- **ACTION:** Urge Congress to ensure all international trade and investment agreements must commit governments and corporations to respect workers' rights, including the right to organize and bargain collectively.
- **ACTION:** Urge Congress to reject any TPP agreement that phases out U.S. tariffs on Japanese vehicles and parts unless Japan agrees to genuine, measurable steps to open its market to U.S. exports. Japanese automakers must also commit to honoring labor rights in the United States as a prerequisite to any agreement.
- **ACTION:** Urge Congress and President Obama to take action to stop countries from manipulating their currency to gain an unfair competitive advantage. The TPP must also include meaningful measures to end currency manipulation.

Jobs and the Economy

Overview

The country is still recovering from the deepest recession since the Great Depression of the 1930s. We are also grappling with the underlying causes of that economic disaster: namely, sluggish wage growth and rising inequality.

Although the recession officially ended in June 2009, unemployment remains high. Unemployment remained above 7 percent at the end of 2013, and for African-Americans and young people of all

ages, it was in double digits. Modest job growth has not been fast enough to replace all of the jobs lost in the downturn: when this book went to press in December, payroll employment was still 9 million jobs below its pre-recession level. What's more, many of the jobs that are being created are low-paid. The middle-class jobs lost during the recession are being replaced by jobs in fields like retail and food preparation, where hourly wages are typically around \$10.

Jobs and the Economy

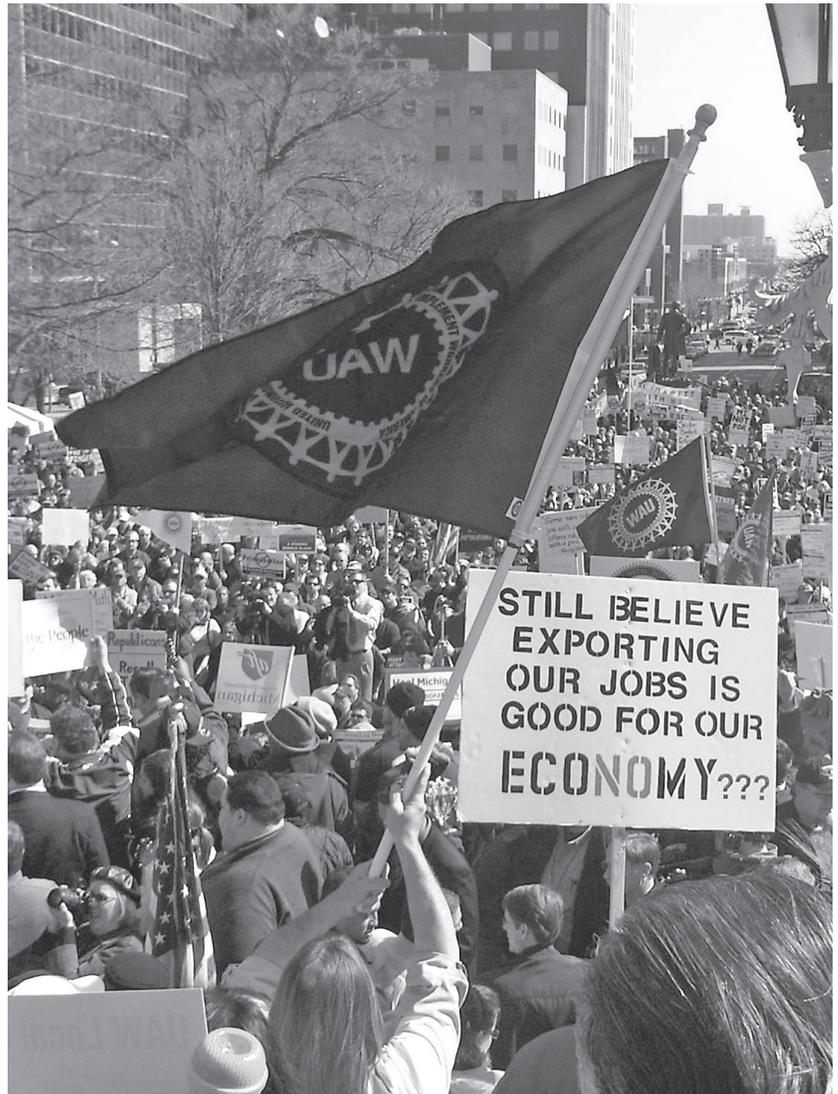
With wages lagging, the purchasing power of the median household has continued to fall even as the economy recovers: It was \$4,600 less in 2012 than it was in 2007. Since 1999, a household squarely in the middle of the U.S. income distribution has seen its inflation-adjusted income shrink 9 percent. While the middle class has been struggling to stay afloat and the situation of the poor has become even more desperate, the benefits of recent economic growth have gone disproportionately to the very wealthy. In fact, the top 1 percent of the population has gobbled up 95 percent of all U.S. income growth since the recovery began in 2009.

Our goal is shared prosperity to sustain economic growth for the long term. Spurring job creation, raising wages and living standards and combating inequality remain our most urgent priorities.

What's at stake for UAW members?

A weak labor market makes it harder for workers to bargain improvements in wages and benefits. Even in UAW industries that are growing, such as auto, the rise of low-wage, no-benefit, insecure employment weakens our bargaining power in the workplace.

More broadly, unprecedented economic inequality has brought unprecedented attacks on the ability of workers to organize and bargain collectively. The upward redistribution of income and wealth to the top 1 percent increases their political power as well as their economic power; the beneficiaries of rising inequality are using that political power to push for policies to perpetuate their privileged position. They know that unions are the most effective way for workers to win economic justice and fairness on the job. That means our fight to improve our members' lives by strengthening our union is inextricably linked to



the fight against growing inequality: We can't win one without taking on the other.

Background on the issues

Sustaining and strengthening the recovery

"First, do no harm." The physicians' oath is also a good guide to economic policy. Ever since President Obama's stimulus bill and auto industry rescue pulled the economy back from the brink, the extreme right has been pushing aggressively for budget cuts that would jeopardize



Jobs and the Economy

the fragile economic recovery. We must continue to resist misguided calls for austerity. We are actively working to ensure the extension of federal Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC), which expired on Dec. 29, 2013. Congress failed to extend this program before they recessed in December and approximately 1.3 million jobless workers immediately lost benefits, and another 1.9 will lose them by June 2014. In addition, cutting off EUC will cost our economy more than 300,000 jobs. When Congress reconvened in January, we continued to fight to have these benefits reinstated.

Instead, we need constructive programs to create jobs and invest in infrastructure improvements that will strengthen the economy for the long term. The need for investment to fix and modernize our roads, bridges, water systems and other infrastructure is great: The American Society of Civil Engineers gives the nation's infrastructure an overall grade of "D+," and calculates it will take \$3.6 trillion in investment through 2020 to bring it to an acceptable standard. And yet, according to the Economic Policy Institute, nondefense public investment in 2011 fell to its lowest share of gross domestic product in well over a decade – mainly because of cuts by cash-strapped state and local governments. Though our country is much richer today than it was in the mid-1960s, we're investing less in our future now than we did then.

The President has proposed a plan to help our American businesses grow, the American Jobs Act, which is made up of ideas that have been supported by both Democrats and Republicans. It combines tax credits for businesses and pathways to work, yet Republicans in Congress have continued to block this agenda and programs to improve our economy.

A stepped-up program of public investment by the federal government would create jobs immediately, many of them well-paid construction jobs. Just as important, it would enhance the nation's productive potential. An outdated, unreliable transportation system, for example, makes it harder to manage parts, supplies and inventory effectively. The modest, \$50 billion investment in the nation's transportation system proposed by President Obama is a good first step, but it will take a much larger investment over the coming decade to reverse past neglect of our vital infrastructure.

We also support action to create public service jobs directly, particularly for disadvantaged workers in high-unemployment communities. Extraordinarily high youth unemployment rates – currently above 20 percent – mean that many young people are failing to gain a toehold on a meaningful career ladder.

Raising wages and combating inequality

Government at every level (federal, state and local) must use every tool at its disposal to raise wages for working Americans. The purchasing power of the federal minimum wage, which has been stuck at \$7.25 since 2009, is lower today than it was in the 1960s. In 1968 the minimum wage kept a family of three above the poverty line; today, it is not enough to keep a family of two out of poverty. We support a stepped increase to \$10.10 over the next three years, as proposed by Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa., and Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., in the Fair Minimum Wage Act. Their plan would mean a pay raise for 30 million workers, who would receive an additional \$51 billion in their paychecks over the phase-in period. The proposal would also index the minimum wage so that it automatically increases with inflation, preventing its value from eroding over time – a concept the UAW has long supported.

Beyond raising the minimum wage, governments can and should use their procurement dollars to support "high road" domestic production by employers that pay good wages, provide decent benefits, maintain safe workplaces and respect workers' right to organize and bargain collectively. Similarly, economic development assistance should focus on supporting "high road" employers, instead of pitting community against community in a destructive competition for jobs and investment.

Finally (and most importantly), the single best way to raise wages is through the power of a union. The right to organize and bargain collectively is central to a broader strategy to raise wages, reduce economic inequality and expand the middle class.

Supporting a "green" manufacturing economy

Even before the recession, the manufacturing sector was experiencing a sharp – even

Jobs and the Economy

unprecedented – decline. Between its 1998 peak and the end of 2007, U.S. manufacturing lost 3.9 million jobs, roughly one in every five. When the economy crashed in 2008, the losses accelerated. In 2009, U.S. manufacturing employment fell below 12 million for the first time since 1946.

No UAW member can forget the dark days of the auto crisis in 2008-2009. Thanks to President Obama’s willingness to go against the conventional political wisdom and take bold action to save General Motors and Chrysler, the industry has come roaring back from the brink, driving a broader manufacturing recovery. U.S. manufacturing employment is projected to grow 2.5 percent in 2013.

In November, U.S. manufacturing has shown more growth than in the previous two years. Increasing and sustaining its momentum will require a comprehensive manufacturing jobs strategy. That means approaching other policy areas – particularly trade and taxation – with an eye toward their impact on domestic manufacturing. It means using government procurement to encourage domestic production through “Buy American” policies and innovative bidding procedures that factor in the value of high-wage domestic jobs. It means building on programs like the Manufacturing Extension Partnership and President Obama’s National Network for Manufacturing Innovation to encourage technical innovation and the spread of best practices. It means supporting efforts by community colleges, regional training consortia and community organizations, including unions, to connect workers to training in the skills that high quality, advanced manufacturing requires.

In the long term, the future of U.S. manufacturing depends on our ability to make the transition to a “green” economy. The demand for clean energy has created tremendous potential for new manufacturing industries to produce environmentally sustainable materials, technologies, and products right here in the United States. Other countries are investing heavily in their clean energy sectors, and if we are not to lose out in global competition, we must do the same. We support smart, targeted policies to revitalize American manufacturing through

programs like the Advanced Technology Vehicles Manufacturing (ATVM) loans which nurture the development of clean energy and other green industries.

Key talking points and actions you can take

- Our economy is improving – but much more needs to be done to put Americans back to work. We need to invest in infrastructure improvements that will create jobs now while strengthening our long-term competitiveness.
- The problem isn’t just that there aren’t enough jobs – it’s also what those jobs pay. Low wages and falling incomes are hurting our families and our economy.
- A strong economy depends on rising wages for the majority of workers – that’s what builds a strong middle class and strong consumer demand. When 95 percent of all income gains go to just 1 percent of the population, economic growth is not sustainable.
- The most effective way to fight poverty, reduce inequality and create a better life for working families is to protect the right to organize and bargain collectively.
- If we want our kids and grandkids to have a shot at the manufacturing jobs of the future, we need to be developing clean energy and other “green” industries now.
- **ACTION:** Ask Congress to pass the President’s American Jobs Act and invest \$50 billion to improve the nation’s transportation infrastructure.
- **ACTION:** Urge Congress to support the Fair Minimum Wage Act to raise the minimum to \$10.10 and index it for inflation.
- **ACTION:** Demand that elected officials support the middle class by protecting the right to organize and bargain collectively.
- **ACTION:** Support community-based campaigns to raise wages and living standards for workers, such as the ongoing efforts by workers at Walmart and in the fast-food industry.

Worker and Consumer Protection

Overview

Attacks on the regulatory process are part of a broader attack on working families by the far right. In the absence of effective regulation in the public interest, there would be no check on corporations' ability to pollute the environment, expose workers to hazardous conditions on the job, deceive consumers or manipulate financial markets.

What's at stake for UAW Members?

It was reported in 2010 almost 4,400 American workers were killed on the job; an estimated 50,000 died of occupational diseases; and at least 3.8 million suffered a non-fatal occupational injury or illness. Many of these deaths and injuries could have been prevented by stronger workplace health and safety regulations. For workers, the problem isn't over-regulation; it's not enough regulation. Regulatory reform would make it even harder to improve protection against on-the-job injuries and occupational illnesses.

Rolling back regulations would also make it harder to protect consumers against deceptive and abusive financial practices and dangerous products (such as the contaminated drugs produced by a largely unregulated pharmacy that caused a nationwide meningitis outbreak in 2012). And by tying the hands of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), regulatory reform would force us all to breathe dirtier air, further increasing the risk to the public health.

Background on the issues

When Congress passes a law, such as the Occupational Safety and Health Act back in the 1970s or the Dodd-Frank Act of 2010 to reform our banking laws, many details of its implementation are left to agencies in the executive branch. These agencies issue rules and set standards to give force to the law and keep it current. The rule-making process is open and transparent. Interest groups from across the political spectrum (as well as individual citizens) have ample opportunity to comment, raise questions and make suggestions on proposed rules before they are finalized. Disputes over specific regulations are nothing new. In recent years, however, the extreme right has launched an aggressive attack on the regulatory process itself in order to block the implementation of duly-passed

laws that they oppose. Many workplace and consumer protections are on hold because of these delay tactics and obstructionism.

Two examples that show the need for effective regulation and the anti-democratic nature of its opponents are OSHA's proposed rule on silica dust exposure and the long, difficult process of implementing the Dodd-Frank Act to stabilize our financial system and protect consumers from Wall Street abuses.

The dangers of silica dust have been well known since the 1930s: breathing the particles causes silicosis, lung cancer and other respiratory diseases, as well as kidney disease. And yet, the current exposure limits have not been updated in 40 years.

After decades of fighting for an updated silica standard, we scored a victory in 2013. OSHA finally proposed a permissible exposure limit (PEL) for silica. Although the UAW and the labor movement support the proposed new standard, we will continue to review exposure information to try and determine the feasibility of lowering the standard even more. Based on extensive scientific study and review lowering exposure to silica will save nearly 700 lives a year and prevent 1,600 new diagnoses of silicosis. Even so, the proposed rule faces strong opposition from corporations and trade associations who are demanding more time to "review" findings that have already been studied to death (literally, in the case of the 700 additional workers who will die at current exposure levels). We will continue to fight against their efforts to derail the progress we have made.

In the case of Dodd-Frank Act, opponents of the law were not able to prevent its passage, and so they launched a campaign to obstruct its implementation. Unfortunately, that campaign has had some success. As of November, more than three years after the law was passed by Congress and signed by President Obama, fewer than half the specific provisions it called for had actually been implemented.

Now House Republicans want to erect even more roadblocks to effective regulation. The centerpiece of their effort is the so-called REINS Act (for "Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny"), which would require all major rules to be approved by both houses of Congress within

Worker and Consumer Protection

70 legislative days. Failure to pass a joint resolution within that window would kill the proposed rule. The REINS Act singles out the EPA for special treatment, defining most of its regulations as “major.” It also takes a swipe at the Affordable Care Act, demanding the right to veto any and all regulations to implement the law.

The REINS Act passed the House on a largely party-line 232-183 vote in August, but is not expected to advance in the Senate. It resurfaced briefly during last fall’s debt default crisis, when House Republicans included it on an initial list of demands they sought in exchange for not defaulting on U.S. financial obligations.

Supporters of bills like the REINS ACT argue that excessive regulation is holding back job growth. This claim lacks merit and an extensive review by the Economic Policy Institute (EPI) shows that the benefits of government regulation have consistently and significantly exceeded their costs. If anything, government estimates of compliance costs tend to overstate the impact on business (and thus understate the net gain to society). This is because in a competitive market, regulation often spurs innovations that benefit both consumers and business.

Looking specifically at environmental regulations issued under the Obama administration, EPI found that the combined compliance costs of all major regulations finalized or proposed amount to just 0.1 percent of the economy – and are far outweighed by the economic

benefits, such as lower energy costs for consumers and a healthier population.

Despite the lack of any evidence that excessive government regulations are hurting the economy (and plenty of evidence that inadequate regulation is hurting workers and consumers), the threat of bad regulatory reform legislation remains very real in the 113th Congress. Instead of continuing on their current anti-regulatory path, Congress should seek ways to make sure that federal agencies are able to effectively enforce the laws that protect our workplaces, food safety, air and water quality and financial security. We do not need additional hurdles in the implementation of policies the American people need and support.

Key Talking Points and Actions You Can Take

- Regulatory reform isn’t about economic efficiency – it’s a power grab by corporations to gain a free hand at our expense.
- There’s no evidence that federal regulation kills jobs. In fact, regulation creates demand for new products and services that spur additional hiring.
- **ACTION:** Urge members of Congress to **oppose** legislation that would freeze or obstruct the federal regulatory process and **support** legislation and regulations that would strengthen protections for the American public.

Right to Organize and Bargain Collectively

Overview

America needs strong a labor movement to strengthen and expand our middle class. As income, wealth and power become increasingly concentrated among a few at the expense of 99 percent of the population, it’s more important than ever for workers to join together to voice our needs, raise our standard of living and win justice

for all. That’s true in the workplace, where a union voice raises wages and benefits and provides fair treatment. It’s also true in the broader political sphere, where strong unions are an essential check on unaccountable corporate power.

The far right wing knows this. That’s why the right to organize and bargain collectively is under unprecedented political attack nationwide. The

Right to Organize and Bargain Collectively

harder it is to organize and the more limits that are placed on unions and collective bargaining, the tougher it will be to advance a broad agenda for democracy and economic justice. When unions are weaker, corporate power can dominate people power at the expense of the middle class. Our fight for the right to organize and bargain collectively is really a fight over the future of our democracy.

What's at stake for UAW Members?

Unions are a vehicle for workers to improve their lives. Through their union, workers can fix issues in the workplace – from abusive supervisors to health and safety problems to unfair scheduling policies. Through their union, workers can bargain for better wages and benefits. Through their union, workers can win political change to create greater fairness for working people.

Like any union, the UAW is only as strong as our solidarity at the workplace and our density in our core sectors. When members don't stand together at the workplace, employers don't see the union as a powerful force – and workplace issues don't get fixed. When density falls in our sectors, so does our power to set standards. The employers we bargain with can point to their nonunion competition as a reason to hold down wages and benefits. That's exactly what's happened in auto over the last 30 years, as union density at the assembly level has fallen from close to 100 percent to under 58 percent.

And that's why organizing – internally within our own workplaces, as well as at nonunion workplaces in our industries – is so important to each and every UAW member.

Background on the issues

In 2012 just 11.3 percent of wage and salary workers belonged to a union. In the private sector, the percentage was even lower – just 6.6 percent. Despite the fact that most American workers are not union members, every American has a direct stake in strengthening the labor movement. A wealth of evidence shows that where unions and collective bargaining are stronger, poverty is reduced, middle-class incomes are higher and the distribution of income is more equitable.

So why is union membership so low? The biggest obstacle to organizing is employer opposition. Our weak labor laws allow employers to use a variety of legal and illegal tactics to stop workers from organizing. Attacks on the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), including budget cuts, have further weakened enforcement of our already-weak laws. Understaffing at NLRB offices means even longer delays for workers seeking justice against employer retaliation – and for illegally fired workers, justice delayed is justice denied. The result is that most workers are blocked from exercising their democratic and legal rights to engage in freedom of speech and association by forming unions.

Having made it almost impossible for workers to organize through the traditional NLRB election process, right-wing Republicans are now trying to take away the rights of workers who have already organized. We saw that in Wisconsin and a number of other states in 2011 – and again in Michigan and Indiana in 2012, when Republican legislatures passed the so-called “right-to-work” (RTW) laws over strong grassroots opposition.

RTW laws make it illegal for workers to bargain for union security in their collective agreements. The intent is to weaken unions financially, making them less effective as a counterweight to corporate power in the workplace and the political system. Although RTW backers often frame their arguments in terms of workers' right to choose, nothing could be further from the truth. Unions exist because a majority of workers within a workplace have overcome incredible odds to win a collective voice. Under our law, an individual worker who disagrees with his or her union cannot be forced to remain a member. They can, however, be required to share in the cost of bargaining and administering their contract. That's what a union security clause does: require everyone who benefits from representation to pay their fair share of representation costs. By outlawing union security, RTW denies workers the right to decide how they want to fund their own union.

Even if RTW laws are anti-democratic, do they at least encourage economic growth? Oklahoma, which passed a RTW law in 2001, is often cited by

Right to Organize and Bargain Collectively

RTW backers as an economic success story – but economists who have studied the state dispute that. There is no evidence that the law improved the state's unemployment rate or job growth performance. Instead, Oklahoma's economic ups and downs since 2001 simply track those of its six neighboring states (three of which have RTW laws, and three of which do not). In fact, contrary to claims that RTW would be a major influence on corporate site selection, the number of announcements of major new manufacturing and service facilities opening in the state actually fell in the decade after RTW was passed.

Key talking points and actions

- The right to organize and bargain collectively is a basic human and democratic right.
- Unions and collective bargaining are essential to a strong middle class.
- Attacks on unions and collective bargaining are part of a broader right-wing agenda to increase corporate power at our expense.
- Right-to-work laws are anti-democratic and do not increase economic growth. They are

politically motivated attacks on unions that will further weaken the middle class.

- **ACTION:** Urge public officials at all levels (local, state, federal) to support workers who are organizing by speaking out and participating in public rallies and other actions.
- **ACTION:** Urge Congress to support full funding for the NLRB and give it the necessary tools to enforce our labor laws.
- **ACTION:** Tell state legislators to oppose RTW and other attacks on collective bargaining.
- **ACTION:** Participate in rallies and actions to defend workers' rights and defeat RTW and other attacks on collective bargaining, and encourage co-workers, friends and neighbors to do the same.
- **ACTION:** Spread the word by talking with friends and neighbors who are not union members about what collective bargaining means for them.



2014 Political Almanac



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This section contains information and reference materials to help CAP activists understand our federal government and the legislative process in Washington. The Political Almanac lists the most recent election results, outlines the leadership structure in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate, and provides a quick look forward to the next election cycle.

Year in Review – 2013

In 2013 President Obama began his historic second term in the White House, Democrats maintained majority control of the U.S. Senate, and Republicans retained control of the U.S. House of Representatives. At the start of the 113th Congress of the United States, House Republicans immediately advocated for more of the same radical policies Americans rejected in the November elections. The actions of Congressman Paul Ryan, the chairman of the House Budget Committee and former GOP vice-presidential nominee, serve as a great example of the ideological approach taken by these extreme right-wing congressional Republicans.

In the spring of 2013 the House and Senate passed competing 10-year budget plans. The House-passed budget blueprint put forward by Chairman Ryan was a more extreme version of the plan former Mass. Gov. Mitt Romney campaigned on in the 2012 election. It would cut federal spending by \$4.6 trillion and include no new revenue to offset these cuts. It would repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and overhaul the tax code largely by slashing tax rates for the wealthy and corporations, costing us trillions in revenue over the next 10 years and leading to more incentives for corporations to offshore jobs. It would have made even deeper and more dramatic cuts than were required by the Budget Control Act, which included steep spending cuts totaling more than \$900 billion over 10 years and committed Congress to come up with an additional \$1.2 trillion in deficit reduction. It would also turn Medicare into a voucher program that would harm beneficiaries. No Democrats voted for it.

This Republican refusal to adhere to anything but extremist calls from their Tea Party faction only worsened during the following months.

On Sept. 30, the House Republicans shut down the federal government in a misguided attempt to defund the ACA — a piece of legislation that the Supreme Court had already decided is the law of the land in June 2012. This 16-day shutdown created enormous hardships for millions of Americans, including thousands of our members in

the public and private sector. The shutdown took at least \$24 billion out of the U.S. economy. Standard & Poor's reports the shutdown caused it to cut its forecast of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth in the fourth quarter by at least 0.6 percentage points, and the agency lowered its estimate for GDP growth to close to 2 percent from 3 percent. These numbers show that the Tea Party's brinksmanship caused real damage to the job market and our entire economy.

President Obama and the Democrats refused to be bullied by the far right wing of the Republican Party and on Oct. 16 Congress passed legislation to reopen the government through Jan. 15, and raise the debt ceiling until mid- Feb. The Tea Party Republicans made several demands to dismantle the ACA that were NOT agreed to, but we continued to fight against policies that would harm our members. The law funded the federal government at \$986 billion through Jan. 15.

In late December, the budget committees in the House and Senate came to an agreement to raise discretionary spending by \$63 billion over the next two years and increase the sequester-set level of \$967 billion to \$1.012 trillion this year and to \$1.014 trillion the following year. The deal averts sequester cuts that are harmful to many of our programs such as defense, Legal Services, and Head Start; and there are no beneficiary cuts to Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security and food assistance programs. However, the agreement failed to extend Emergency Unemployment Compensation benefits and does not raise revenue from the wealthy or close any corporate tax loopholes. In addition, it increases both single employer premiums in the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) and federal employee retirement contributions. The appropriators from the House and Senate now have until Jan. 15 to craft a spending plan based on this agreement.

We continue to work with allies to advocate for the use of progressive tax policies and protections against benefit cuts to Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. As Congress looks for ways to



Year in Review – 2013

trim the federal budget, we will continue to be particularly vocal in our opposition to making any changes that hurt working families and seniors. Previous proposals have included raising the Medicare eligibility age, and once again, we will remain strong in our opposition. Such a move would actually increase the total cost of providing health care because the cost of coverage through employers, VEBAs, and the individual market is generally higher than the cost through Medicare. Raising the Medicare eligibility age has not shown any significant savings to the government and would shift the burden to seniors.

The Senate continues to make progress on progressive legislation, despite the shutdown and filibusters by the Republicans. The Senate passed a comprehensive immigration reform bill in July, and the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), which prohibits employers from firing,

refusing to promote, or refusing to hire employees because of their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity, in early November. Due to unprecedented obstruction, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid changed the Senate rules to ensure nominees are debated and receive a fair up-or-down vote.

The only way to keep this progress moving and ensure that extremists stop hijacking our democracy is by continuing to ramp up our political activism and electing individuals to Congress who will fight for working families. The 2014 election cycle will be critical to the UAW, working families and the future of the middle class. Five Democratic senators will be retiring, and many others face difficult re-election bids. President Obama needs strong backing from Congress to keep our nation on the right path forward. With strong UAW action, we can, and will, keep our nation moving forward.

The Bill of Rights

**These articles were ratified
Dec. 15, 1791.**

Article I

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

Article II

A well-regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.

Article III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

Article IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly

describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Article V

No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

Article VI

In all criminal prosecutions, the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury of the State and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and to have the Assistance of Counsel for his defense.

The Bill of Rights

Article VII

In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed \$20, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved, and no fact tried by a jury, shall be otherwise reexamined in any Court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

Article VIII

Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

Article IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

Article X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.

The Presidency of the United States

Every four years, on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, millions of Americans go to the polls to choose a new leader in a free and open election.

The candidates, nominated during the preceding summer at the conventions of their respective political parties, wage vigorous campaigns. Through radio, television, newspapers, magazines, blogs, Twitter feeds, and digital media they make known their views on national and international affairs, becoming familiar faces to the people of the nation.

On Inauguration Day, the successful candidate for president of the United States takes this oath

of office: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States."

This is the same oath that has been taken by every American president since George Washington. Yet, in the two centuries since the first president was inaugurated, the obligations and duties implied in the oath have changed. The key to the change lies in the words "the Office of the President." Exactly what is the Office of the President? What was it originally intended to be? What has it become?

The Growth of the Presidency

The men who wrote the Constitution of the United States were opposed to the idea of an all-powerful head of state. America's Founding Fathers thought of the presidency as an office of great honor and dignity but one with little real power. The American colonists in general favored the parliamentary system of government but did not believe that all governmental powers should rest within any one body. So, in framing the Constitution, they provided for three separate branches: legislative, executive and judicial.

Article I of the Constitution deals with the functions of the House of Representatives and the Senate. Not until Article II is any mention made of the president. This article states that the president shall be the head of the executive branch of the government. But, to limit and restrict the office, the Constitution provides Congress with checks against any president

who may try to assume too much authority.

The framers of the Constitution believed that in the presidency they had created an office of prestige but little power. They would be astounded if they knew the changes that have occurred. The powers and responsibilities of the president have grown enormously. The president has become the leader of the country in fact as well as in name. His words and deeds affect the course of history not only in the United States, but also in every country throughout the world.

The men who were presidents early in the history of the republic were able to carry on the duties of their office with little assistance. When George Washington served as the first president of the United States, his staff consisted of a secretary, one or two clerks and household servants who acted as messengers. But with the enormous growth



The Growth of the Presidency

in presidential power and responsibilities, the office of the presidency now must be run by a large staff. Today the president of the United States requires the assistance of more than 1,500 people.

The employees assigned to jobs directly relating

to the office of the presidency are staff members of the Executive Office of the President. The Executive Office was created by Congress, but it can be reorganized by the president through executive orders.

The Cabinet

The president's Cabinet is one of the most important parts of the executive branch of the government. The Cabinet was not provided for by the Constitution, nor was it created by an act of Congress. It developed through necessity. The Cabinet traces its beginnings to George Washington's assembling his department heads in 1793 to discuss U.S. neutrality in the French Revolutionary wars.

The Cabinet is made up of the heads of the 15 departments of the government. Its function is to advise the president on matters of the greatest importance. One of the first tasks of a new president is to select a Cabinet.

- Secretary of Foreign Affairs (State)
- Secretary of War
- Secretary of the Treasury
- Attorney General

The present-day Cabinet includes the following heads of executive departments:

- Secretary of State
- Secretary of the Treasury
- Secretary of Defense
- Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security
- Attorney General (Justice Department)
- Secretary of the Interior
- Secretary of Agriculture

- Secretary of Commerce
- Secretary of Labor
- Secretary of Health and Human Services
- Secretary of Education
- Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
- Secretary of Transportation
- Secretary of Energy
- Secretary of Veterans Affairs

The president may also choose other members of government to serve in the Cabinet; the vice president, the White House chief of staff, and the director of the Office of Management and Budget may all join the Cabinet at the president's discretion.

Power of the President

When we see the president on TV or mentioned in the newspaper, it is often coverage of ceremonial duties, such as welcoming foreign dignitaries, awarding medals, making proclamations, signing legislation or addressing Congress. While our attention is focused on these activities, it is easy to overlook the enormous powers we grant to the chief executive when we cast our votes. The president of the United States is the most powerful elected executive position in the world.

As chief executive officer of the United States, the president executes the legislation he signs into law and manages his Cabinet, which oversees

the myriad departments and agencies created to conduct the business of the federal government. The president's ideas will be incorporated into policies and acts that will affect the life of every citizen. In addition to his responsibility for upholding the Constitution and enforcing the laws of the land, he has extensive powers in the following areas:

Foreign policy

The president formulates foreign and military policy that determines issues of war and peace. As commander-in-chief of the armed forces and chief executive of the nation, the president has extensive power to act independently of Congress.

Power of the President

Without consulting Congress, President Harry S. Truman ordered the atomic bombing of Japan; President John F. Kennedy approved the Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba; President Ronald Reagan sent troops to Lebanon, invaded Grenada, stationed troops in Central America and adopted a “re-flagging” policy in the Persian Gulf. While Congress gave President George W. Bush the authority to use force in Iraq, he determined the level and intensity. President Obama ordered a team of Navy Seals to cross the Pakistani border to conduct the raid in which Osama bin Laden was killed.

Legislation

The president helps set the legislative agenda for Congress and a budget for the nation.

The president may:

- Personally lobby for or against bills.
- Veto bills that he opposes. (Vetoes are seldom overturned.)
- Formulate and propose a budget for the federal government.
- Impound funds already appropriated by Congress against his wishes (Presidents Gerald Ford and Richard Nixon impounded billions of dollars).

Appointments

A new president appoints between 3,000 and 4,000 people to high-ranking posts in government agencies. That includes many positions in agencies that are important to working families, such as OSHA, the National Labor Relations Board, and the Environmental Protection Agency, the

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the Federal Trade Commission and many offices within the Department of Labor. The president also appoints federal judges and justices of the U.S. Supreme Court. The nominations are subject to confirmation by the Senate. A president may make a recess appointment while Congress is not in session, which circumvents the confirmation process, but only until the next Congress is sworn in. President Obama’s appointments represent the kind of priorities people have come to expect from his administration. He worked diligently to compel Republicans in Congress to confirm his head of the newly created Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, showing his commitment to regulating the banking and financial industries and preventing another Wall Street-led financial collapse.

Shaping Public Opinion

Presidents mold public opinion in support of their ideas, programs and policies through television appearances, news conferences and speeches to the nation and to joint sessions of Congress.

For example, President Obama has made the case for economic fairness, including tax and budget policies that protect and expand the middle class. While the president cannot personally introduce bills in Congress, he certainly can make sure that Congress hears from him, and encourage citizens to make their voices heard as well.

Events in Washington also contribute to public opinion. Since the government shutdown, the public opinion of Congress has reached a record low of 12 percent, signaling a frustration and antipathy with the stalemate and actions of Washington.

Importance of the Supreme Court

The U.S. Supreme Court, which convenes the first Monday in October for a session that typically runs through June, often has the last word on controversial policy disputes. As the highest court in the land, the Supreme Court is charged with determining the constitutionality of our laws and reviewing decisions made by lower courts. It is where the most serious civil and voting rights

disputes, labor and employment rules and federal laws go for final settlement. The Court decides about 150 cases of great national importance and interest every year. Decisions by the Supreme Court can expand our democracy and make it more inclusive – or they can harm working families and increase the power of wealthy corporate interests.

As a case in point, on June 25, the Court

Importance of the Supreme Court

struck down the coverage formula used by Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. This decision allowed nine states, mostly in the South, to change their election laws without advance federal approval. The Voting Rights Act has been one of the most important pieces of federal legislation in combating entrenched racism. Local politicians in many parts of the country had a long and established history of denying access to the polls in order to serve their own interests. Many solidified their power by promoting voting rules that denied people of color their democratic rights. A laundry list of tactics has been used over the years to do this, including poll taxes, literacy tests and voter intimidation. By ending federal oversight of local voting practices, the Court's decision opened the door to a new wave of anti-democratic practices. It took only hours to see the impact of the ruling. The Republican Attorney General in Texas, Greg Abbott, immediately announced following the Supreme Court decision that his state would move rapidly ahead with implementing its voter ID law. Such laws have been shown to disproportionately disenfranchise young, minority, and poor voters.

Another far-reaching decision in the Court's last session struck down the so-called Defense of Marriage Act, which had previously barred the

federal government from recognizing same-sex marriages. In 2012 the Supreme Court upheld most of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), also referred to as "Obamacare." However, because it limited the ability of the federal government to require states to expand Medicaid coverage for the working poor, as a result, a number of states have declined to do so – increasing the number of Americans who will remain uninsured and unable to access health care.

All of these decisions came about on 5-4 votes, highlighting the importance of each justice in the court's decision-making process. Working people have an enormous stake in Supreme Court appointments. Our fundamental right to fairness on the job and in the political system can hinge on a single vote. The composition of the Supreme Court – where many justices serve for decades – is one of the most important legacies of any presidency.

The sitting justices consist of two appointed by President Reagan, one appointed by President George H.W. Bush, two by President Clinton, two by President George W. Bush and two by President Obama. Their ages range from the oldest, Justice Ruth Ginsburg at 80, to the newest and youngest justice, Elena Kagan, who is 53. President Obama made history by appointing to the court its first Latina justice, Sonya Sotomayor.

2014 Governors' Races

Two states held gubernatorial elections in 2013, Virginia and New Jersey, where Republican Gov. Chris Christie was re-elected with 60 percent of the vote, and Virginia narrowly elected Democrat Terry McAuliffe.

These races are critical for all UAW members and have a direct impact on public sector workers. Governors can utilize their leadership position to make changes to state labor laws that make it more difficult for public sector workers to organize and bargain. For example, Governor Christie tried to break the state's teachers' and public sector unions. Governors' races will be held in 36 states in 2014 and UAW members have a lot at stake in these races.

There are eight Democratic incumbents running for re-election in California, Colorado, Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, Minnesota, New

Hampshire and New York. There are two states – Oregon and Vermont – where Democratic incumbents are eligible for re-election but have yet to declare their intent. In four states – Arkansas, Maryland, Massachusetts and Rhode Island – and one territory, Democratic incumbents are retiring and/or are term-limited.

There are 15 Republican incumbents running for re-election in Alabama, Alaska, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Kansas, Maine, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee and Wisconsin. There are four states where Republican incumbents are eligible for re-election should they decide to run again. They are Iowa, Michigan, South Dakota and Wyoming. There are three states – Arizona, Nebraska and Texas – where Republican governors are retiring and/or are term-limited.

2014 Senate Races

Sometimes called “the world’s greatest deliberative body,” the U.S. Senate consists of two senators elected statewide from each of the 50 states, resulting in 100 members. The Senate is divided into three groups or classes, according to what year they stand for election or re-election to their six-year terms. One-third of the seats are up for re-election every two years, and occasionally additional seats become open due to retirements, deaths or senators seeking other offices. Open Senate seats are filled according to the laws of that senator’s state, either by appointment, special election, a combination of both or an appointment until a special election is held.

The U.S. Senate began the session with Democrats holding a 55-45 majority. Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., who was appointed Secretary of State, had his seat filled by Edward Cowen until a special election was held. Edward Markey was elected to fill the remainder of the term. Before the beginning of the 113th Congress, Sen. Jim DeMint, R-S.C., left to run the conservative right-wing Heritage Foundation. His seat was filled by Rep. Tim Scott, a Republican.

Sen. Frank Lautenberg, D-N.J., passed away

on June 3, and Governor Christie appointed Republican Jeffrey Chiesa to fill the seat. Democrat Cory Booker won a special election on Oct. 16 to serve out the remainder of Senator Lautenberg’s term. The makeup of the Senate stands at 53 Democrats plus two Independents who caucus with Democrats and 45 Republicans.

View of 2014 Elections

The 2014 elections will determine who controls the Senate. Among the seats up for election in 2014, currently, there are 21 held by Democrats and 14 held by Republicans. Seven different senators have announced they will not seek re-election in 2014. These include Republicans Saxby Chambliss of Georgia and Mike Johanns of Nebraska, and Democrats Max Baucus of Montana, Tom Harkin of Iowa, Tim Johnson of South Dakota, Carl Levin of Michigan and Jay Rockefeller of West Virginia.

Below is a complete list of all of the U.S. senators who will be serving in the 113th Congress as determined by the 2012 election and special elections held in 2013. States are listed in alphabetical order. Senators whose seats are up for re-election in 2014 are marked with an asterisk:

Alabama

Richard Shelby (R)
Jeff Sessions (R)*

Alaska

Lisa Murkowski (R)
Mark Begich (D)*

Arizona

John McCain (R)
Jeff Flake (R)

Arkansas

Mark Pryor (D)*
John Boozman (R)

California

Dianne Feinstein (D)
Barbara Boxer (D)

Colorado

Mark Udall (D)*
Michael Bennet (D)

Connecticut

Chris Murphy (D)
Richard Blumenthal (D)

Delaware

Tom Carper (D)
Chris Coons (D)*

Florida

Bill Nelson (D)
Marco Rubio (R)

Georgia

Saxby Chambliss (R)*
Johnny Isakson (R)

Hawaii

Brian Schatz (D)
Mazie Hirono (D)

Idaho

Mike Crapo (R)
Jim Risch (R)*

Illinois

Dick Durbin (D)*
Mark Kirk (R)

Indiana

Joe Donnelly (D)
Dan Coats (R)

Iowa

Chuck Grassley (R)
Tom Harkin (D)*



2014 Senate Races

Kansas

Pat Roberts (R)*
Jerry Moran (R)

Kentucky

Mitch McConnell (R)*
Rand Paul (R)

Louisiana

Mary Landrieu (D)*
David Vitter (R)

Maine

Angus King (I)
Susan Collins (R)*

Maryland

Barbara Mikulski (D)
Ben Cardin (D)

Massachusetts

Edward Markey (D)*
Elizabeth Warren (D)

Michigan

Carl Levin (D)*
Debbie Stabenow (D)

Minnesota

Amy Klobuchar (D)
Al Franken (D)*

Mississippi

Thad Cochran (R)*
Roger Wicker (R)

Missouri

Claire McCaskill (D)
Roy Blunt (R)

Montana

Max Baucus (D)*
Jon Tester (D)

Nebraska

Deb Fischer (R)
Mike Johanns (R)*

Nevada

Harry Reid (D)
Dean Heller (R)

New Hampshire

Jeanne Shaheen (D)*
Kelly Ayotte (R)

New Jersey

Robert Menendez (D)
Cory Booker (D) *

New Mexico

Martin Heinrich (D)
Tom Udall (D)*

New York

Charles Schumer (D)
Kirsten Gillibrand (D)

North Carolina

Richard Burr (R)
Kay Hagan (D)*

North Dakota

Heidi Hietkamp (D)
John Hoeven (R)

Ohio

Sherrod Brown (D)
Rob Portman (R)

Oklahoma

Jim Inhofe (R)*
Tom Coburn (R)

Oregon

Ron Wyden (D)
Jeff Merkley (D)*

Pennsylvania

Bob Casey Jr. (D)
Pat Toomey (R)

Rhode Island

Jack Reed (D)*
Sheldon Whitehouse (D)

South Carolina

Lindsey Graham (R)*
Tim Scott (R)*

South Dakota

Tim Johnson (D)*
John Thune (R)

Tennessee

Lamar Alexander (R)*
Bob Corker (R)

Texas

Ted Cruz (R)
John Cornyn (R)*

Utah

Orrin Hatch (R)
Mike Lee (R)

Vermont

Patrick Leahy (D)
Bernie Sanders (I)

Virginia

Tim Kaine (D)
Mark Warner (D)*

Washington

Patty Murray (D)
Maria Cantwell (D)

West Virginia

Jay Rockefeller (D)*
Joe Manchin (D)

Wisconsin

Tammy Baldwin (D)
Ron Johnson (R)

Wyoming

Mike Enzi (R)*
John Barrasso (R)

U.S. House of Representatives

113th Congress • 2014 House Races

While Republicans maintained majority control after the 2012 elections, their majority narrowed from 242-193 in the 112th Congress to 234-201 in the 113th. For the first time in history, the Democratic caucus has a majority of women and minorities.

Since the start of the 113th Congress, Reps. Jo Bonner, R-Ala., Jo Ann Emerson, R-Mo., and Rodney Alexander, R-La., resigned. Reps. Tim Scott, R-S.C., and Edward Markey, D-Mass., left to serve in the Senate. Most recently, Rep. Bill Young,

R-Fla., passed away and a special election was to be held in January. Nine other members of Congress have also announced that they will be leaving the House to run for a seat in the U.S. Senate, two other members will be leaving their seat to vie for another state office, and two more members will be retiring at the end of their term.

Below is a complete list of the members who are serving in the House of Representatives in the 113th Congress. States are listed in alphabetical order.

Alabama

(6-1 Republican)

1. Bradley Byrne (R)
2. Martha Roby (R)
3. Mike Rogers (R)
4. Robert Aderholt (R)
5. Mo Brooks (R)
6. Spencer Bachus (R)
7. Terri Sewell (D)

Alaska

(1 Republican)

At-large. Don Young (R)

Arizona

(5-4 Democrat)

1. Ann Kirkpatrick (D)
2. Ron Barber (D)
3. Raul Grijalva (D)
4. Paul Gosar (R)
5. Matt Salmon (R)
6. David Schweikert (R)
7. Ed Pastor (D)
8. Trent Franks (R)
9. Krysten Sinema (D)

Arkansas

(4-0 Republican)

1. Rick Crawford (R)
2. Timothy Griffin (R)
3. Steve Womack (R)
4. Tom Cotton (R)

California

(38-15 Democrat)

1. La Malfa, Doug (R)

2. Huffman, Jared (D)

3. Garamendi, John (D)

4. McClintock, Tom (R)

5. Thompson, Mike (D)

6. Matsui, Doris O. (D)

7. Ami Bera (D)

8. Cook, Paul (R)

9. McNerney, Jerry (D)

10. Denham, Jeff (R)

11. Miller, George (D)

12. Pelosi, Nancy (D)

13. Lee, Barbara (D)

14. Speier, Jackie (D)

15. Swalwell, Eric (D)

16. Costa, Jim (D)

17. Honda, Mike (D)

18. Eshoo, Anna G. (D)

19. Lofgren, Zoe (D)

20. Farr, Sam (D)

21. Valadao, David (R)

22. Nunes, Devin (R)

23. McCarthy, Kevin (R)

24. Capps, Lois (D)

25. McKeon, Buck (R)

26. Brownley, Julia (D)

27. Chu, Judy (D)

28. Schiff, Adam B. (D)

29. Cardenas, Tony (D)

30. Sherman, Brad J. (D)

31. Miller, Gary G. (R)

32. Napolitano, Grace F. (D)

33. Waxman, Henry (D)

34. Becerra, Xavier (D)

35. McLeod, Gloria (D)

36. Ruiz, Raul (D)

37. Bass, Karen (D)

38. Sánchez, Linda T. (D)

39. Royce, Ed R. (R)

40. Roybal-Allard, Lucille (D)

41. Takano, Mark (D)

42. Calvert, Ken (R)

43. Waters, Maxine (D)

44. Hahn, Janice (D)

45. Campbell, John (R)

46. Sanchez, Loretta (D)

47. Lowenthal, Alan (D)

48. Rohrabacher, Dana (R)

49. Issa, Darrell E. (R)

50. Hunter, Duncan (R)

51. Vargas, Juan (D)

52. Scott Peters (D)

53. Davis, Susan A. (D)

Colorado

(4-3 Republican)

1. Diana DeGette (D)

2. Jared Polis (D)

3. Scott Tipton (R)

4. Cory Gardner (R)

5. Doug Lamborn (R)

6. Mike Coffman (R)

7. Ed Perlmutter (D)

Connecticut

(5 Democrats)

1. John Larson (D)

2. Joe Courtney (D)

3. Rosa DeLauro (D)

4. Jim Himes (D)

5. Elizabeth Esty (D)



2014 Political Almanac

U.S. House of Representatives

113th Congress • 2014 House Races

Delaware

(1 Democrat)
At-large. John Carney (D)

Florida

(16 -10 Republican)
1. Jeff Miller (R)
2. Steve Southerland (R)
3. Ted Yoho (R)
4. Ander Crenshaw (R)
5. Corrine Brown (D)
6. Ron DeSantis (R)
7. John Mica (R)
8. Bill Posey (R)
9. Alan Grayson (D)
10. Daniel Webster (R)
11. Richard Nugent (R)
12. Gus Bilirakis (R)
13. Vacant
14. Kathy Castor (D)
15. Dennis Ross (R)
16. Vern Buchanan (R)
17. Thomas Rooney (R)
18. Patrick Murphy (D)
19. Trey Radel (R)
20. Alcee Hastings (D)
21. Ted Deutch (D)
22. Lois Frankel (D)
23. Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D)
24. Frederica Wilson (D)
25. Mario Diaz-Balart (R)
26. Joe Garcia (D)
27. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R)

Georgia

(9-5 Republican)
1. Jack Kingston (R)
2. Sanford Bishop (D)
3. Lynn Westmoreland (R)
4. Hank Johnson (D)
5. John Lewis (D)
6. Tom Price (R)
7. Rob Woodall (R)
8. Austin Scott (R)
9. Doug Collins (R)
10. Paul Broun (R)

11. Phil Gingrey (R)
12. John Barrow (D)
13. David Scott (D)
14. Tom Graves (R)

Hawaii

(2 Democrats)
1. Colleen Hanabusa (D)
2. Tulsi Gabbard (D)

Idaho

(2 Republicans)
1. Raul Labrador (R)
2. Mike Simpson (R)

Illinois

(12-6 Democrats)
1. Bobby Rush (D)
2. Robin Kelly (D)
3. Dan Lipinski (D)
4. Luis Gutierrez (D)
5. Michael Quigley (D)
6. Peter Roskam (R)
7. Danny Davis (D)
8. Tammy Duckworth (D)
9. Jan Schakowsky (D)
10. Brad Schneider (D)
11. Bill Foster (D)
12. William Enyart (D)
13. Rodney Davis (R)
14. Randy Hultgren (R)
15. John Shimkus (R)
16. Adam Kinzinger (R)
17. Cheri Bustos (D)
18. Aaron Schock (R)

Indiana

(7-2 Republican)
1. Pete Visclosky (D)
2. Jackie Walorski (R)
3. Marlin Stutzman (R)
4. Todd Rokita (R)
5. Susan Brooks (R)
6. Luke Messer (R)
7. Andre Carson (D)
8. Larry Bucshon (R)
9. Todd Young (R)

Iowa

(2-2 Democrat/Republican)
1. Bruce Braley (D)
2. David Loebsack (D)
3. Tom Latham (R)
4. Steve King (R)

Kansas

(4 Republicans)
1. Tim Huelskamp (R)
2. Lynn Jenkins (R)
3. Kevin Yoder (R)
4. Mike Pompeo (R)

Kentucky

(5-1 Republican)
1. Ed Whitfield (R)
2. Brett Guthrie (R)
3. John Yarmuth (D)
4. Thomas Massie (R)
5. Hal Rogers (R)
6. Andy Barr (R)

Louisiana

(5-1 Republican)
1. Steve Scalise (R)
2. Cedric Richmond (D)
3. Charles Boustany (R)
4. John Fleming (R)
5. Vance McAllister (R)
6. Bill Cassidy (R)

Maine

(2 Democrats)
1. Chellie Pingree (D)
2. Mike Michaud (D)

Maryland

(7-1 Democratic)
1. Andrew Harris (R)
2. Dutch Ruppersberger (D)
3. John Sarbanes (D)
4. Donna Edwards (D)
5. Steny Hoyer (D)
6. John Delaney (D)
7. Elijah Cummings (D)
8. Chris Van Hollen (D)

U.S. House of Representatives

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Massachusetts

(9 Democrats)

1. Richard Neal (D)
2. Jim McGovern (D)
3. Niki Tsongas (D)
4. Joe Kennedy (D)
5. Katherine Clark (D)
6. John Tierney (D)
7. Michael Capuano (D)
8. Stephen Lynch (D)
9. William Keating (D)

Michigan

(9-5 Republican)

1. Dan Benishek (R)
2. Bill Huizenga (R)
3. Justin Amash (R)
4. David Camp (R)
5. Dan Kildee (D)
6. Fred Upton (R)
7. Tim Walberg (R)
8. Mike Rogers (R)
9. Sandy Levin (D)
10. Candice Miller (R)
11. Kerry Bentivolio (R)
12. John Dingell (D)
13. John Conyers (D)
14. Gary Peters (D)

Minnesota

(5-3 Democrats)

1. Tim Walz (D)
2. John Kline (R)
3. Erik Paulsen (R)
4. Betty McCollum (D)
5. Keith Ellison (D)
6. Michele Bachmann (R)
7. Collin Peterson (D)
8. Rick Nolan (D)

Mississippi

(3-1 Republican)

1. Alan Nunnelee (R)
2. Bennie Thompson (D)
3. Gregg Harper (R)
4. Steven Palazzo (R)

Missouri

(6-2 Republican)

1. William Clay (D)
2. Ann Wagner (R)
3. Blaine Luetkemeyer (R)
4. Vicky Hartzler (R)
5. Emanuel Cleaver (D)
6. Sam Graves (R)
7. Bill Long (R)
8. Jason Smith (R)

Montana

(1 Republican)

At-large. Steve Daines (R)

Nebraska

(3 Republicans)

1. Jeff Fortenberry (R)
2. Lee Terry (R)
3. Adrian Smith (R)

Nevada

(2-2 Democrat/Republican)

1. Dina Titus (D)
2. Mark Amodei (R)
3. Joe Heck (R)
4. Steve Horsford (D)

New Hampshire

(2 Democrats)

1. Carol Shea-Porter (D)
2. Ann Kuster (D)

New Jersey

(6-6 Democratic/Republican)

1. Rob Andrews (D)
2. Frank LoBiondo (R)
3. Jon Runyan (R)
4. Chris Smith (R)
5. Scott Garrett (R)
6. Frank Pallone (D)
7. Leonard Lance (R)
8. Albio Sires (D)
9. Bill Pascrell (D)
10. Donald Payne, Jr. (D)
11. Rodney Frelinghuysen (R)
12. Rush Holt (D)

New Mexico

(2-1 Democrat)

1. Michelle Lujan Grisham (D)
2. Steve Pearce (R)
3. Ben Lujan (D)

New York

(21-6 Democrat)

1. Tim Bishop (D)
2. Peter King (R)
3. Steve Israel (D)
4. Carolyn McCarthy (D)
5. Gregory Meeks (D)
6. Grace Meng (D)
7. Nydia Velazquez (D)
8. Hakeem Jeffries (D)
9. Yvette Clark (D)
10. Jerrold Nadler (D)
11. Michael Grimm (R)
12. Carolyn Maloney (D)
13. Charles Rangel (D)
14. Joseph Crowley (D)
15. Jose Serrano (D)
16. Eliot Engel (D)
17. Nita Lowey (D)
18. Sean Maloney (D)
19. Chris Gibson (R)
20. Paul Tonko (D)
21. Bill Owens (D)
22. Richard Hanna (R)
23. Tom Reed (R)
24. Dan Maffei (D)
25. Louise Slaughter (D)
26. Brian Higgins (D)
27. Chris Collins (R)

North Carolina

(8-4 Republican)

1. G. K. Butterfield (D)
2. Renee Ellmers (R)
3. Walter Jones (R)
4. David Price (D)
5. Virginia Foxx (R)
6. Howard Coble (R)
7. Mike McIntyre (D)
8. Richard Hudson (R)
9. Robert Pittenger (R)



2014 Political Almanac

U.S. House of Representatives

113th Congress • 2014 House Races

10. Patrick McHenry (R)
11. Mark Meadows (R)
12. Vacant
13. George Holding (D)

North Dakota

(1 Republican)
At-large. Kevin Cramer (R)

Ohio

- (12-4 Republican)
1. Steve Chabot (R)
 2. Brad Wenstrup (R)
 3. Joyce Beatty (D)
 4. Jim Jordan (R)
 5. Bob Latta (R)
 6. Bill Johnson (R)
 7. Bob Gibbs (R)
 8. John Boehner (R)
 9. Marcy Kaptur (D)
 10. Michael Turner (R)
 11. Marcia Fudge (D)
 12. Pat Tiberi (R)
 13. Tim Ryan (D)
 14. David Joyce (R)
 15. Steve Stivers (R)
 16. Jim Renacci (R)

Oklahoma

- (5 Republicans)
1. Jim Bridestine (R)
 2. Markwayne Mullin (R)
 3. Frank Lucas (R)
 4. Tom Cole (R)
 5. James Lankford (R)

Oregon

- (4-1 Democrat)
1. Suzanne Bonamici (D)
 2. Greg Walden (R)
 3. Earl Blumenauer (D)
 4. Peter DeFazio (D)
 5. Kurt Schrader (D)

Pennsylvania

- (13-5 Republican)
1. Bob Brady (D)
 2. Chaka Fattah (D)

3. Mike Kelly (R)
4. Scott Perry (R)
5. Glenn Thompson (R)
6. Jim Gerlach (R)
7. Pat Meehan (R)
8. Mike Fitzpatrick (R)
9. Bill Shuster (R)
10. Tom Marino (R)
11. Lou Barletta (R)
12. Keith Rothfus (R)
13. Allyson Schwartz (D)
14. Michael Doyle (D)
15. Charlie Dent (R)
16. Joseph Pitts (R)
17. Matthew Cartwright (D)
18. Timothy Murphy (R)

Rhode Island

- (2 Democrats)
1. David Cicilline (D)
 2. James Langevin (D)

South Carolina

- (6-1 Republican)
1. Mark Sanford (R)
 2. Joe Wilson (R)
 3. Jeff Duncan (R)
 4. Trey Gowdy (R)
 5. Mick Mulvaney (R)
 6. James Clyburn (D)
 7. Tom Rice (R)

South Dakota

- (1 Republican)
At-large. Kristi Noem (R)

Tennessee

- (7-2 Republican)
1. Phil Roe (R)
 2. John Duncan (R)
 3. Chuck Fleischmann (R)
 4. Scott DesJarlais (R)
 5. Jim Cooper (D)
 6. Diane Black (R)
 7. Marsha Blackburn (R)
 8. Stephen Fincher (R)
 9. Steve Cohen (D)

Texas

- (24-12 Republican)
1. Louie Gohmert (R)
 2. Ted Poe (R)
 3. Sam Johnson (R)
 4. Ralph Hall (R)
 5. Jeb Hensarling (R)
 6. Joe Barton (R)
 7. John Culberson (R)
 8. Kevin Brady (R)
 9. Al Green (D)
 10. Michael McCaul (R)
 11. Mike Conaway (R)
 12. Kay Granger (R)
 13. Mac Thornberry (R)
 14. Randy Weber (R)
 15. Ruben Hinojosa (D)
 16. Beto O'Rourke (D)
 17. Bill Flores (R)
 18. Sheila Jackson Lee (D)
 19. Randy Neugebauer (R)
 20. Joaquin Castro (D)
 21. Lamar Smith (R)
 22. Pete Olson (R)
 23. Pete Gallego (D)
 24. Kenny Marchant (R)
 25. Roger Williams (R)
 26. Michael Burgess (R)
 27. Blake Farenthold (R)
 28. Henry Cuellar (D)
 29. Gene Green (D)
 30. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D)
 31. John Carter (R)
 32. Pete Sessions (R)
 33. Marc Veasey (D)
 34. Filemon Vela (D)
 35. Lloyd Doggett (D)
 36. Steve Stockman (R)

Utah

- (3-1 Republican)
1. Rob Bishop (R)
 2. Chris Stewart (R)
 3. Jason Chaffetz (R)
 4. Jim D. Matheson (D)

U.S. House of Representatives

113th Congress • 2014 House Races

Vermont

(1 Democrat)

At-large. Peter Welch (D)

Virginia

(8-3 Republican)

1. Rob Wittman (R)
2. Scott Rigell (R)
3. Bobby Scott (D)
4. Randy Forbes (R)
5. Robert Hurt (R)
6. Bob Goodlatte (R)
7. Eric Cantor (R)
8. Jim Moran (D)
9. Morgan Griffith (R)
10. Frank Wolf (R)
11. Gerry Connolly (D)

Washington

(6-4 Democratic)

1. Suzan DelBene (D)
2. Rick Larsen (D)
3. Jaime Herrera Beutler (R)
4. Doc Hastings (R)
5. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R)
6. Derek Kilmer (D)
7. Jim McDermott (D)
8. Dave Reichert (R)
9. Adam Smith (D)
10. Denny Heck (D)

West Virginia

(2-1 Republican)

1. David McKinley (R)
2. Shelley Moore Capito (R)
3. Nick Rahall (D)

Wisconsin

(5-3 Republican)

1. Paul Ryan (R)
2. Mark Pocan (D)
3. Ron Kind (D)
4. Gwen Moore (D)
5. Jim Sensenbrenner (R)
6. Tom Petri (R)
7. Sean Duffy (R)
8. Reid Ribble (R)

Wyoming

(1 Republican)

At-large. Cynthia Lummis (R)



The Powers of Congress

The U.S. Congress has enormous power to shape our society and impact our lives. This is achieved not just through the laws Congress passes, but also by controlling government spending and levels of taxation and providing advice and consent on trade agreements. Congress has a huge impact on employment, collective bargaining and the quality of work life for all Americans.

Write Laws, Declare War, Monitor Federal Agencies

Under our Constitution, Congress has many powers, including the power to assess and collect taxes; to regulate commerce, both interstate and foreign; to coin money; to establish post offices; to create courts inferior to the Supreme Court; to raise and maintain a U.S. Army and Navy, and to declare war. Another power vested in Congress is the right to propose amendments to the U.S. Constitution whenever two-thirds of both chambers deem it necessary.

The House of Representatives is granted the power to originate all bills for raising revenue.

Under the Constitution, the Senate is granted certain powers not given to the House of Representatives. The Senate must approve many high-level presidential appointments, including all federal judges and the Supreme Court justices. The upper chamber must also concur in treaties with foreign countries by a two-thirds majority vote.

Committees: the Legislative Engines

Committees are the engines of the congressional lawmaking machinery. There are 16 standing committees in the Senate and 20 in the House. These committees take initial jurisdiction over legislation and can move, stall or stop it. Without committee approval, a bill has little chance of reaching the full House or Senate for consideration.

In addition to standing committees, there are also select and special committees, created for a specific purpose. A recent example of such



a committee is the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction – better known as the “Super Committee” – that was established by Congress in the first session of the 112th Congress to reduce the federal budget deficit. The membership of the standing committees of each chamber is selected by the colleagues of their own party in Congress. Members of other committees are appointed under the provisions of the legislation establishing them.

Power Committees

Representatives and senators generally seek membership on committees related to their personal interests, background and the economic interests of their districts or state. Many, however, particularly if given an opportunity early in their careers, will choose the powerful committees like Energy and Commerce in the House, as well as the Senate Finance and the House Ways and Means committees, which consider tax and trade legislation. The House and Senate Budget committees now allow Congress to compete with the White House in establishing national priorities through a national budget. This makes them attractive to most members. The House Budget Committee is unique in its rotation requirements, under which no one may serve more than two terms in a 10-year period.

The Filibuster

The filibuster is a time-delaying tactic in the Senate, used by the minority in an effort to delay or defeat a bill or amendment that would probably pass if voted on by a simple majority. The filibuster takes advantage of Senate rules that permit unlimited debate. To end a filibuster, the cloture motion must obtain the votes of three-fifths of the Senate membership (60 if there are no vacancies).

A once rarely used procedure, it is now often deployed and has greatly hindered the Senate's ability to act. Before President Obama, 20 executive branch nominees were filibustered. Under President Obama, 16 have been filibustered. During Harry Reid's first six years as Senate majority leader, he has faced almost 400 filibusters, as compared to the one faced by Lyndon Johnson during his six years as majority leader.

In addition to blocking bills, the filibuster has also been used to block the confirmation of federal judges appointed by the Obama administration, hindering not only the business of the legislature, but also damaging the effectiveness of the judicial branch. The Senate can now be held hostage by the

minority party, requiring a 60-vote "supermajority" to get most bills passed.

After the Senate declined an opportunity to reform its rules at the beginning of the 113th Congress, the abuse continued. Pressure for reform grew, leading Majority Leader Reid to threaten to change the rules by a simple majority vote (the so-called "nuclear option"). While Reid's threat led to a negotiated deal that finally broke the logjam on stalled nominations, including for members of the National Labor Relations Board and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the broken rules that created the problem are still in place, and the abuse continued. In late October, the Senate minority blocked the nomination for Rep. Mel Watt, D-N.C., to head the Federal Housing Finance Agency, as well as three nominees to the U.S. Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia District Court. Prompted by this action, at the end of November Senate Democrats changed the rules of the Senate to eliminate the filibuster for all presidential nominees besides Supreme Court nominees. We strongly supported this change to the rules.

Who Controls Congress

Currently in the 113th, Congress Republicans hold the majority in the House of Representatives with 233 seats. The Democrats have 200 seats and there are two vacancies. The Democrats have a majority in the U.S. Senate with 55. This includes the two Independents who caucus with the Democrats. There are 45 Republican senators.

The two-chamber U.S. Congress has various positions and officers that run the business of governing and legislating in each chamber. The leadership in each chamber is elected by the political party caucuses after each federal election. In the House, there is the Speaker of the House, the majority leader, the minority leader and numerous whips for each party. In the Senate, there is a president, a president pro-tempore, a majority leader, a minority leader and a whip for each party. Each chamber also has clerks, secretaries and sergeants-at-arms who are not elected officials.

U.S. House Leadership

The Speaker of the House is the presiding officer of the U.S. House, and second in succession to the president of the United States behind the vice president. This post continues to be held by John Boehner, the Republican representative of the 8th District of Ohio. Speaker Boehner was first elected to the U.S. House in 1990 and served as the majority whip under then-Speaker Newt Gingrich. He was selected by his fellow Republicans as minority leader in 2005, after Republicans lost their majority in the House. As speaker, Boehner has had a difficult time exercising control because of the large number of Tea Party Republicans who have been elected to the House.

These extreme Republicans have sometimes been so unwilling to compromise their ultra-conservative views that they have even refused to vote for legislation the speaker has



Who Controls Congress

agreed to. This was the case in 2012 when a minority of Republican members nearly caused the U.S. government to default by refusing to vote to increase the debt ceiling.

Next in line of power after the speaker is the majority leader. In this Congress, Eric Cantor of Virginia's 7th District was re-elected as majority leader. Cantor was first elected in 2000, and served as the minority whip in the 111th Congress under Boehner. The majority leader runs the schedule and rules of debate and the agenda for the majority party, working with the speaker and the whips to control the legislative process.

The leader of the minority party in the U.S. House is called the minority leader. Once again, for the 113th Congress, it is former Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California's 8th District. When she won the speakership in 2007, Congresswoman Pelosi became the first woman in history to rise to the position. The minority leader is the spokesperson and leader of the opposition to the speaker and the majority party.

The whips are the representatives who keep their party's members informed and in line with their respective party's agenda. They are the vote counters and communicators for the leadership. Republican Kevin McCarthy of California was re-elected to serve as majority whip. On the Democratic side, Steny Hoyer of Maryland remains the minority whip while James Clyburn of South Carolina remains in his post as assistant minority leader.

U.S. Senate Leadership

The Senate is constitutionally presided over by the vice president of the United States, but the vice

president only serves to break tie votes or during ceremonies. The role is currently filled by Joe Biden. The actual operation of the Senate is led by the Senate majority leader, and the minority leader heads the opposition or minority party. Both of these leaders are elected within their respective caucus during the organizational period between elections and the beginning of a new Congress. There is also the speaker pro tempore, or "pro tem," the highest seniority senator of the majority party, but this is also basically a ceremonial office, although the speaker pro tem is third in line of succession to the president. This position is currently held by Sen. Patrick Leahy of Vermont.

Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada was re-elected as the majority leader of the Senate. Reid served Nevada as the lieutenant governor from 1970 until 1974, was a U.S. representative from 1982 to 1987 and has been a U.S. senator since that time. Reid was the minority leader from 2003 until the Democrats took the majority in 2006, when he assumed the majority leader position.

In the 113th Congress, Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky continues to serve as minority leader. McConnell was first elected to the Senate in 1984 and was elected leader of the Republican Caucus in 2006.

Just as in the U.S. House, the majority leader and the minority leader rely on whips for information and lining up their party members' votes. The Senate majority whip for the 113th Congress is once again Richard Durbin of Illinois, who reports to Senate Majority Leader Reid. The Senate minority whip for the 113th Congress is John Cornyn of Texas, who reports to Senate Minority Leader McConnell.

What is V-CAP?

The UAW's V-CAP Checkoff is a voluntary program that allows each member to make a modest contribution each month to help the union support candidates who care about American workers and their jobs. This voluntary contribution is usually made through an automatic payroll deduction, called V-CAP Checkoff. The V-CAP

Checkoff program has been, and continues to be, a very successful part of raising voluntary dollars for the union's political purposes.

By law, union dues can't be used to support any federal candidate and, in an ever-increasing number of states, any candidate for public office. Our only means of monetary support for many

What is V-CAP?

labor-endorsed candidates is voluntary political contributions, which are put into the International Union's political action fund, UAW V-CAP. The 2012 election cycle was the most expensive in history, with expenditures exceeding \$6 billion. In this post-*Citizens United* world, money will continue to influence our elections. Outside spending organizations reported \$1.28 billion in spending to the Federal Election Commission through the end of Election Day in 2012. Of that less than 1 percent was spent directly by unions and almost 50 percent was spent by Super PACs, the independent expenditure-only committees.

While *Citizens United* proved to be a huge advantage for Republicans and their SuperPACs, some of their wealthy donors still aren't satisfied. In 2013 we saw yet another attack by billionaires to undermine democracy and increase big money's influence in politics. The Supreme Court heard *McCutcheon v. Federal Election Commission*, a case brought about by a wealthy GOP donor that is being called the next *Citizens United*. The super wealthy now want to be able to contribute limitless amounts of money directly to the candidates who in turn deregulate the economy and contribute to higher paychecks for themselves and their shareholders. This case is still pending, but it is a clear sign that big business is gearing up for 2014 and taking advantage of any means possible to eclipse any opposition in the upcoming elections.

Maintaining a strong counterweight is now more important than ever. This year will undoubtedly be another record-breaking year, as huge amounts of money will again influence federal and state elections. We should expect the existence of Super PACs to carry the voice of billionaires, thereby putting the pressure on us to pool our resources in order to amplify the voices of working people. Individually we could never dream of matching the contributions by the super wealthy, but together we have a much better chance of offsetting their power.

The following pages contain guidelines for running an effective V-CAP program, as well as discussion points on why V-CAP remains a vital part of our voice in politics:

"V" Means Voluntary

Always remember that both checkoff authorization and the amount to be deducted are purely voluntary. No UAW member can or should

be compelled to contribute to the UAW V-CAP fund. A member can cancel his or her authorization by written request at any time. The keys to increasing participation in V-CAP and our other political action efforts are political education and communication, not high-pressure tactics. These are proven methods that have been very successful in many local unions. They can be successful in your local if used properly and adapted specifically to your workplace.

Note: UAW V-CAP is an independent political action committee created by the UAW. This committee does not ask for or accept authorization from any candidate, and no candidate is responsible for its activities. UAW V-CAP uses the money it receives to make political contributions and expenditures in connection with federal, state and local elections. Contributions to UAW V-CAP are purely voluntary, and are made without fear of reprisal. All UAW members may be eligible for V-CAP raffle drawings, regardless of whether they make a contribution to UAW V-CAP. Money contributed to UAW V-CAP constitutes a voluntary contribution to a joint fund-raising effort by the UAW and AFL-CIO.

Elements of an Effective V-CAP Program

All successful V-CAP programs start with planning. The following are some guidelines for you to consider when launching a new V-CAP program or revamping an existing one:

1. Bargaining for V-CAP Checkoff.

Before embarking on a V-CAP program, it is worth taking the time to review the logistics of collecting funds under the program. V-CAP is a monthly contribution; collecting funds individually each month requires a tremendous amount of resources. Thus, it is helpful to negotiate language in your collective bargaining agreement that lets the company administer V-CAP payroll deductions. Under Federal Election Campaign Act (FECA) rules, the union must reimburse the company for these administrative costs. For additional information on bargaining language and calculations on the administrative costs, contact the UAW National CAP Department.

2. Make a plan to plan. The first step in any project planning is to brainstorm with a small



What is V-CAP?

group to identify existing practices, get agreement on what works and a consensus on what needs to be improved. Local leadership should set up a planning team which can put together a project planning table with the specific details of how you expect to implement the drive in the workplace. A V-CAP drive coordinator should be designated. Come up with realistic targets. Remember, there is no such thing as too much planning.

3. Leadership support. For the drive to succeed, the leadership team must support the program with words and by publicly showing commitment for the program. The team should be in agreement when it comes to monetary goals and time commitments. In fact, the first ones to sign up or increase their contribution to a V-CAP program should be the leadership.

4. Make a calendar. Set a date for the kickoff of the V-CAP drive along with a stated goal of 100 percent personal contact with each identified potential V-CAP member contributor at work during a period of one targeted week in each local union. Identify materials that need to be collected for the drive and deadlines for receipt. Decide how many volunteers will be needed and a realistic timeframe for them to complete their work.

5. Notify members and recruit. Schedule a meeting and send a letter to all rank-and-file members, including the local union leadership, in advance of the drive kickoff to explain the importance of V-CAP to the working families of the UAW. Use the meeting to not only sign up members for V-CAP (or increase their contributions), but also to recruit volunteers to canvass co-workers.

6. Train volunteers. Once volunteers are identified, it is important that they are trained so everyone has the same understanding and goal. Go over the legalities of V-CAP and typical questions. Focus the training on how to have issue-based conversations and listen to co-workers. Stress the importance of asking; too often we are fearful of making direct requests of co-workers, and we miss opportunities.

7. Target. Do not just cut loose a group of volunteers to talk randomly to anybody. An assessment should be conducted of the membership's participation in the V-CAP program to determine the targeted audience for reaching

your goal. Have a plan on who is going to talk to whom – whether it is talking to co-workers in the same area or in the lunch room. Find out who is already giving to V-CAP and make a request of them to increase their participation. Know who has been active in recent elections (such as volunteering for phone banking) and approach them about giving to V-CAP for the first time. Don't forget to include retired members, too!

8. Monitor movement. During the drive, have short strategy meetings with the volunteers to debrief tough questions and brainstorm new ideas. This step is a very important ingredient in the process of completing a successful drive! Keep a record for future reference. Check to see if you are on track with your target; it may turn out that the coordinator needs to recruit more volunteers to reach your targeted audience and complete the conversations.

9. Track future work. Individual cards for members who are not contacted during the drive should be maintained by the local union in an action file for contact upon the member's return to work. This important step should be established as an automatic procedure in all local unions. Similarly, individual cards for members designating "no" should be retained on permanent file by the local union for a possible second contact in the future, depending on the situation.

10. Thank members. Acknowledging member support for a program can make all the difference. Whether it is a thank-you letter or an acknowledgment of all givers in a newsletter, it is important to let members know their support is appreciated.

Talking to members about politics

In talking to members about politics, we are often tempted to just talk at them – to give them statistics and facts and charts and leaflets; to overwhelm them with information so they will obviously come to the right conclusion. But this approach typically fails. Not because the facts are weak, but because our co-workers put up their walls and stop listening the second we start lecturing.

The most effective conversations are just that – conversations. When we take the time to listen and ask questions, we can get to know what our

What is V-CAP?

co-workers care about. Knowing what they care about helps us to help them connect the dots so they see that supporting our issues or candidates will help them address their concerns.

What does a UAW endorsement mean?

UAW endorsements are based upon membership input and leadership ratification. Decisions are made after examining the voting records of incumbents and previous officeholders or the stated positions and pledges of new candidates. Members often get to grill candidates directly on important issues facing workers. Because the process is based on democratic principles and the issues affecting members, UAW endorsements are weighty matters.

Sometimes UAW members get sidetracked by issues or positions that aren't work-related, but that

appeal to strong personal feelings or beliefs. It is important to know that UAW endorsements are based on a candidate's positions and voting record relative to work-related issues. These issues include trade, workplace health and safety, unemployment insurance, union and bargaining rights, and other quality of work/life issues. There are many groups that take up other issues and rate candidates and officeholders based on their criteria.

Union members need to consider where their priorities and interests lie – with the union that is looking after their physical and financial well-being, or another interest that may be part of a plan to divide working people for the purposes of winning elections.

When working families stick together and vote together, we win. When workers are divided by so-called “wedge issues,” our opponents win.

Glossary of Legislative Terms

Act A bill or measure after it passes one or both chambers of Congress and becomes law. Also used to denote a law in place.

Adjournment The end of a legislative day. Recess does not end a legislative day.

Advanced Technology Vehicle

Manufacturing (ATVM) A \$25 billion direct loan program that was created by Congress in 2008 for the purpose of funding projects that help vehicles manufactured in the United States meet higher mileage requirements and lessen U.S. dependence on foreign oil.

Amendment A proposal to change or an actual change to a bill, a motion, an act or the U.S. Constitution. An amendment is generally debated and voted upon in the same manner as a bill.

Apportionment Allocation of legislative seats by law. The 435 seats in the House of Representatives are apportioned to states based on population.

Appropriations Bill Grants the actual money approved by authorization bills, but not necessarily to the total amount permissible under the authorization bill. Originates in the House.



Authorization Bill Authorizes a program, specifies its general aim and conduct, and often puts a ceiling on money that can be used to finance it. The authorization may be for a specific period of time or indefinitely.

Bill A proposed law. For reference, bills in the House begin with the letters H.R. Bills in the Senate begin with S. They are numbered sequentially.

Budget Control Act (BCA) The Budget Control Act (BCA) was passed by the 112th Congress and signed into law by President Obama in August 2011 to prevent the United States from defaulting on our

Glossary of Legislative Terms

debt for the first time in our history. The BCA has already lead to drastic budget cuts and will likely lead to additional cuts in important programs through 2021. The law directly specifies \$917 billion of cuts over 10 years. It primarily cuts spending by capping the discretionary budget through 2021. When Congress failed to act on a larger deficit reduction package, an additional \$1.2 trillion in automatic cuts were triggered across-the-board, equally split between security and non-security discretionary programs. This process is known as "sequestration." The first year of sequestration was estimated to have slowed our economic growth by almost .7 percent, and prevented the nation from creating as many as 900,000 jobs. Last year was the first year of these across-the-board-cuts, and this process will be repeated every year through 2021 until a total of \$1.2 trillion in cuts have been enacted. These across-the-board cuts would apply to Medicare providers but not to Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare beneficiaries, civil and military employee pay or veterans' benefits.

Caucus The meeting of members of a political party, usually to decide policy or select members to fill positions. Also, the group itself.

Chamber Either the House of Representatives or the Senate.

Cloture In the Senate, the only way to end a filibuster (to allow an up or down vote on a bill) is through a cloture vote. A cloture motion requires the signature of 16 senators. To end a filibuster, the cloture motion must obtain the votes of three-fifths of the Senate membership (60 if there are no vacancies). If approved, cloture permits another 30 hours of debate before final vote on the underlying bill, amendment or other measure.

Conference Committee A committee composed of senators and representatives named by each respective chamber to work out differences between same subject bills passed by both chambers. If a compromise is reached, it must then be voted on again and approved by the Senate and House before being sent to the president for approval.

Conference Report The compromise product negotiated by the conference committee. The conference report is submitted to both chambers for

a vote of approval or disapproval. No amendments are permitted to a conference report.

Congressional Record The printed, daily account of debates, votes and comments in the House and Senate published by the Government Printing Office.

Continuing Resolution If Congress has not enacted all the necessary appropriations bills when a fiscal year begins, it passes a joint resolution which must be signed by the president to continue appropriations at rates generally based on those of the previous year. (The federal fiscal year begins on Oct. 1.) The federal government is currently operating under a CR.

Congressional Review Act (CRA) CRA allows Congress to review new federal regulations issued by the government agencies to overrule a regulation by a simple majority. Significantly, 30 members of the Senate can force a vote on CRA without the consent of the majority. Debate on the floor is limited to 10 hours and no amendments to the resolution or motions to proceed to other business are allowed. We anticipate any pro-worker regulations moved forward will face a vote under the CRA. If the president vetoes the CRA, a two-thirds vote is required to override the veto.

Copyright Copyright laws grant the creators of original works exclusive rights. Our members in the National Writers Union are confronted by widespread theft of those rights and economic benefits.

Discretionary Spending Refers to spending appropriated by Congress. In contrast to entitlement programs, for which funding is mandatory, discretionary spending is taken up each year in annual appropriations acts. Appropriations for discretionary spending may be changed or eliminated by Congress.

Earmark Specifies funds for a particular purpose by Congress. Currently, earmarks are prohibited in appropriations bills in both the House and the Senate.

Entitlement A federal program that requires payments to any person who meets established

Glossary of Legislative Terms

criteria. Entitlements create a binding obligation on the part of the federal government. Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and veterans' compensation are examples of entitlements. Many entitlement programs are structured like insurance because beneficiaries pay into them through payroll deductions

Executive Session A meeting closed to the public.

Expenditures The actual spending of money as distinguished from appropriations. The administration makes expenditures; Congress appropriates funding. The two are rarely identical in any fiscal year, for expenditures may represent money appropriated in previous years.

Filibuster A time-delaying tactic in the Senate, generally used by the minority in an effort to delay or defeat a bill or amendment that in many instances would probably pass if voted on directly. The filibuster takes advantage of the Senate's rules that permit unlimited debate. To end a filibuster, the cloture motion must obtain the votes of three-fifths of the Senate membership (60 if there are no vacancies). During the second session of the 112th Congress alone, Senate Republicans used the filibuster 109 times through November and have used it a record 360 times since 2007. Democrats were able to break the 60 vote requirement only 37 times in the 112th Congress. A once rarely used procedure, the filibuster is now often deployed and has greatly hindered the Senate's ability to address challenges we face as a country. Because of this obstruction, Senate Majority Leader Reid was prepared to change the rules of the Senate to curb this abuse in the middle of the session by a simple majority vote. Following a long battle with Republicans, this threat to change the Senate rules broke the logjam on stalled nominations, and forced Senate Republicans to allow votes on many stalled nominees.

However, as recent as November, Senate Republicans continued to block nominees and at the end of November, Senate Democrats invoked the "nuclear option" and changed the rules of the Senate to eliminate the filibuster for all presidential nominees besides Supreme Court nominees. This reform of Senate rules and procedures will increase

the Senate's ability to act on nominees through the process – in other words, to do the job the people elected their Senators to do.

Five-Minute Rule A debate-limiting rule of the House. Under the rule, a member offering an amendment is allowed to speak for only five minutes in its favor, and an opponent of the amendment is allowed to speak for five minutes in opposition. Debate is then closed.

Gag or Closed Rule Prohibits amendments in the House not approved by the committee which brought the bill to the House floor. At the request of the sponsoring committee, the House must either accept or reject the bill as recommended by the sponsoring committee.

Grand Bargain Refers to a possible bipartisan agreement on a large-scale and long-term plan aimed at reducing the federal deficit over the next decade. Details of various "grand bargains" vary, but most proposals, like the often cited "Simpson-Bowles plan," raise revenue by closing some tax loopholes and include major cuts in Social Security, Medicare and other important programs.

Hastert Rule Named after former House Republican Speaker Dennis Hastert, who led the House of Representatives from 1999-2007. This rule refers to a political tactic by the House speaker to bring legislation to the House floor only if it has the support of the majority of the speaker's caucus. The Hastert rule most recently was a major factor in the immigration reform debate, where House Speaker John Boehner vowed to not bring any immigration legislation to a vote unless it has majority backing in the House Republican conference. Such a requirement all but guaranteed that the bipartisan immigration reform bill from the Senate could not be brought to the House floor in its existing form.

H.R. Stands for House of Representatives and designates a bill originating in the House.

Hold A Senate practice whereby a senator tells his or her party leader that he or she does not wish a bill or nomination to come to the floor for consideration. This has been a reoccurring target in the reform of the Senate rules. The most recent



Glossary of Legislative Terms

successful challenges to this custom included a 2011 resolution declaring that, in the case of secret holds, either a senator's identity is revealed after two days or the hold is assigned to the party leader. The latter of these reforms has in practice been easily circumvented by the "tag-team hold". This method consists of one senator informing his party leader of his intent to place a hold. Before two days pass, the senator will withdraw his hold, at which time his tag-team partner submits a new hold request. The senators can rotate in this manner, and the identity of neither will be revealed.

Hopper A wooden box in the House into which representatives place proposed bills.

Joint Committee A committee composed of senators and representatives.

Jurisdiction The subject areas and duties assigned to a committee by rule, resolution, precedent or practice, including legislative matters, oversight, investigations and nominations.

"Lame-Duck" Session When Congress returns after an election in an even-numbered year to consider legislation. So called because some members who return for this session are "lame ducks" who will not return. Congress might convene a "lame-duck" session at the end of the year after the November elections.

Majority Leader Leader of the majority party in either the House or the Senate. In the House, this individual is second in command to the speaker.

Mandatory Spending Federal spending controlled by laws other than annual appropriations bills, including spending on entitlement programs. Social Security and Medicare are examples of mandatory spending.

Markup The section by section review and revision of a bill by committee members.

Minority Leader Leader of the minority party in either the House or the Senate.

Motion to Proceed The motion to proceed to consideration of a bill, amendment, nomination or other measure is used in the Senate when

unanimous consent to proceed cannot be obtained. Under the new filibuster rules set earlier this year, if senators wish to block a bill or nominee after the motion to proceed, they will need to be present in the Senate and debate.

Motion to Recommit An often used but rarely successful procedural tactic used by the minority party in the House. This motion is the one last chance the minority has to get members on record or to kill the bill outright. A motion to recommit made without "instructions," is not debatable, and if successful, it has the effect of the House killing the bill without a final vote on its passage. If the motion to recommit has "instructions," the authorizing committee is bound to follow those instructions. To make a motion to recommit, a member must be opposed to the bill, absolutely or at least in its present form, thus the need for amendment. A member who offers the motion is obliged to vote against final passage of the bill if the motion to recommit fails.

Omnibus Bill A legislative proposal concerning several separate, but often related, items, usually appropriations bills.

Override a Veto Congress may try to override the president's veto in order to enact a bill into law. The override of a veto requires a recorded vote with a two-thirds majority in each chamber.

Pocket Veto A rarely used device by which the president can kill a bill without a formal veto by simply not signing it during a period of congressional adjournment.

President Pro Tempore Because the vice president, who is the president of the U.S. Senate, is seldom present to preside, the Senate elects a president pro tempore, or temporary president who, if he or she does not preside each day, assigns the job to another senator, usually of junior seniority.

Quorum The number of members whose presence is necessary for the transaction of business.

Ranking Member The highest-ranking member of the minority party on a committee. The ranking member on the committee is usually the longest serving member of the committee from the minority party.

Glossary of Legislative Terms

Recess Concludes legislative business and sets time for the next meeting of the legislative body.

Reconciliation Reconciliation is a process that limits debate on budget bills to 20 hours. If the annual congressional budget resolution contains reconciliation instructions, these instructions direct a committee or committees to make specific changes to law by a certain date. Reconciliation is a way to pass legislation without facing the obstacle of the filibuster in the Senate. It was used in the 111th Congress to pass portions of the Affordable Care Act. It was also used to pass Bush-era tax cuts for the wealthy.

Renewable Fuels Standard The Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS), requires gasoline refiners to use specific amounts of corn and cellulosic ethanol, biodiesel and other plant-based alternatives. The 2007 law requires the amounts to increase each year, although EPA is responsible for setting the numbers and enforcing the requirements. We support the growth and development of renewable fuels.

Repatriation Tax Holiday A special treatment of “off-shored” corporate taxes. Under U.S. tax law, multinational companies owe federal income taxes on their worldwide profits. They receive tax credits for foreign taxes paid and can defer U.S. taxation until they bring the profits home. Corporations have a statutory tax rate of 35 percent, although few pay this rate because of tax loopholes and deductions. A tax holiday is the opportunity to bring those offshore profits back without them being taxed.

Many companies are lobbying Congress for a tax holiday, contending that it could unlock more than \$1 trillion in profits that are held offshore. They say bringing home the profits at a low rate would spur hiring. Congress enacted a repatriation tax holiday in 2004 and offered companies a 5.25 percent tax rate. According to numerous studies, the “holiday” was a failure and many of the companies in fact cut jobs in the United States after receiving the benefit. High tech and pharmaceutical companies are especially strong proponents of a “holiday,” and they continue to lobby Congress aggressively in support.

Rescission A bill rescinding or canceling budget authority previously made available by Congress.

Resolution A formal statement of a decision or opinion by the House or Senate or both. A simple resolution is made by one chamber and generally deals with that chamber’s rules or prerogatives. A concurrent resolution is presented in both chambers and usually expresses a congressional view on a matter not within congressional jurisdiction. A joint resolution also requires approval in both chambers and goes to the president for approval. Simple and concurrent resolutions do not go to the president.

Rider An amendment to legislation that is often not relevant to the underlying bill but that is “hitching a ride.” Riders to appropriations bills are often controversial and might not pass on its own. Appropriations riders must be renewed each year in the appropriations process.

Roll Call Vote Senators vote as their names are called by the clerk. Representatives electronically record their votes. Each House member has a card to insert at voting stations, and a running count of votes is displayed. Roll call votes and recorded teller votes are the only votes of which a public record is made.

S. Stands for Senate and designates a bill originating in the Senate, by number

Sequestration A fiscal policy procedure adopted by Congress several decades ago to reduce the federal budget deficit by making automatic cuts by a certain deadline. It first appeared in the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Deficit Reduction Act of 1985. In short, sequestration is the cancellation of budgetary resources – an “automatic” form of spending cutback. The most recent sequestration was the result of the Budget Control Act of 2011 which cut well over \$1 trillion in government spending over the next decade, and placed responsibility for finding another \$1.2 trillion on Congress. The first year of sequestration went into effect and automatic spending cuts began impacting defense programs, payments to Medicare providers, and cuts to non-defense spending (OSHA enforcement, elementary and secondary education and scientific research).

Speaker Speaker of the House of Representatives. Presides over the House. Elected, in effect, by the majority party in the House. Next in line of succession to the presidency after the vice president.



Glossary of Legislative Terms

Standing Vote Proponents and opponents are asked to stand in turn (also called division vote). Votes of individuals are not recorded.

Suspend the Rules A motion in the House intended to quickly bring a bill to a vote. A two-thirds favorable vote of those present and voting is required for approval of a bill on suspension. No amendments are allowed.

TTIP (EU-US FTA) The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) is a free-trade agreement being negotiated between the European Union and the United States. After nearly two years of preparation, the United States and the European Union began the first round of negotiations in Washington on July 8. The proposed deal would be the world's biggest free-trade deal, covering about 50 percent of global economic output, 30 percent of global trade and 20 percent of global foreign direct investment.

Table a Bill A motion to, in effect, put a bill aside and thereby remove it from consideration for a later date or essentially kill it by not bringing the matter up again.

Territorial Tax System Under U.S. tax law, multinational companies owe federal income taxes on their worldwide profits. Such companies receive tax credits for foreign taxes paid and can defer U.S. taxation until they bring the profits home. In contrast, under a territorial tax system, foreign income is not taxed. For example, if a company conducts business in Belgium, it only owes taxes on income earned in Belgium. If a Belgian company does a great deal of business in Great Britain, income from that business is not taxed in Belgium (though it may be taxed by the U.K.). Territorial tax regimes are found in Hong Kong, France, Belgium, Netherlands and others.

TPP The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) is a multilateral trade agreement being negotiated between the United States and 11 other countries in a deal representing more than 40 percent of global trade. The entry of Japan into the TPP negotiations in 2013 threatens the recovery of the U.S. auto industry. In particular, the UAW is very concerned that Japan unfairly subsidizes

their exports, as well as maintains an intentionally closed domestic auto market and fails to adhere to workers' rights. In addition to the United States, nations involved in the TPP negotiations include Japan, Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, Canada, Mexico and Vietnam.

Unanimous Consent Proceedings and action on legislation often occur, especially in the Senate, by unanimous consent, or "UC," to expedite floor action. One senator may block holding a vote by UC.

Voting Rights Act of 1965 Voting Rights Act (VRA) bans racial discrimination in voting practices by the federal government as well as by state and local governments. Passed in 1965 after a century of deliberate and violent denial of the vote to African-Americans in the South and Latinos in the Southwest – as well as many years of entrenched electoral systems that shut out citizens with limited fluency in English – the VRA is often held up as the most effective civil rights law ever enacted. It is widely regarded as enabling the enfranchisement of millions of minority voters and diversifying the electorate and legislative bodies at all levels of American government.

The U.S. Congress has reauthorized the VRA numerous times, most recently in 2006. Yet in 2013, the Supreme Court ruled by a 5-4 decision that key parts of the Voting Rights Act were no longer valid. They specifically struck down Section 5 of the VRA, which set the formula dictating which areas of the country must receive pre-clearance before making any changes to their voting laws and regulations. The ruling doesn't change the fact it's still illegal to discriminate against a person when it comes to voting, but in practice it does nullify one of the most important tools in protecting minority voters from governments with a history of setting unfair barriers to the polls.

Veto Disapproval by the president of a bill or joint resolution (other than one proposing an amendment to the Constitution). When Congress is in session, the president must veto a bill within 10 days (excluding Sundays) of receiving it; otherwise, the bill becomes law without the president's signature.

Glossary of Legislative Terms

Whip A legislator who is chosen to be assistant to the leader of the party in both the House and Senate. The whip's job is to line up votes in support of the party's strategies and legislation.

Works Council A works council is an organization representing workers at the work site (and, in larger companies, at the corporate and even global level). In a number of European countries, including Germany, works councils are required by law as part of a broader commitment to "co-determination," in which workers are guaranteed

a voice in workplace decisions and corporate governance. Works council representatives are elected by the workforce, generally for four-year terms, and are separate from the national union (though unions can and do run candidates for the works council). In general, works councils complement the work of labor unions. Sector-wide collective bargaining agreements are reached at the national level by national unions and national employer associations, and local plants and firms then meet with works councils to address local issues.

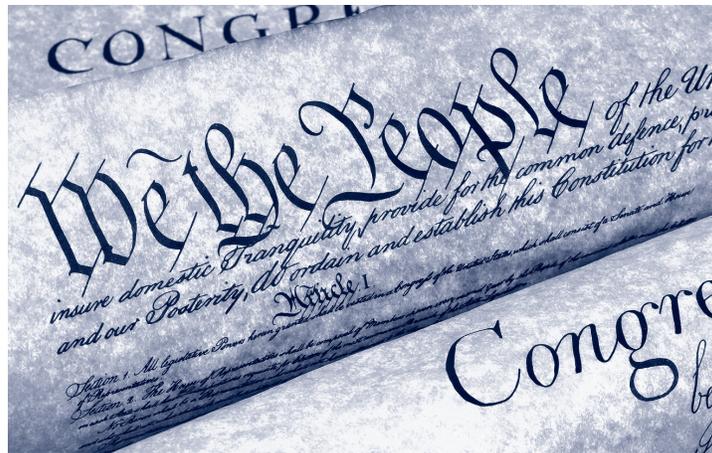
How a Bill Moves Through Congress

A bill is introduced by either a representative or senator. It may be the lawmaker's own bill, an administration bill, or the idea may have originated with some business or labor group back home.

Bills are referred to committees. The committee generally refers the bill to a subcommittee which studies the issue carefully, holds hearings and reports the bill with recommendations back to the full committee. The full committee may discuss the bill further, make additional changes or scrap the bill. If the full committee votes to report out the bill, the bill is ready to go to the floor of the House or Senate for a vote.

The committee reports the bill. A committee report is generally presented with the bill to explain the bill's provisions and the committee's decision. After this, the bill is ready to be scheduled for debate by the full House or Senate.

The bill goes to the floor of the House or Senate for debate. After a bill is debated, possibly amended and passed by one house of Congress, it is sent to the other house where it goes through



the same procedure. If the bill passes the other house without any changes, it is sent to the president for his signature and it either becomes a law or is vetoed.

If the Senate and the House pass different versions of a bill, both bills are sent to a conference committee. The House and Senate

each appoint members from the committee that reported the bill to serve on the conference committee and resolve the differences between the two bills. If they fail to reach a compromise, the bill will die in the conference committee.

When the conference committee reconciles the differences and agrees on one bill, the bill goes back to the Senate and to the House for a vote on final passage. No amendments to a conference report are permitted. The bill must either be voted up or down. If it is approved in both houses, the bill goes to the president.

If the president signs the bill, it becomes a law. If the president vetoes it, it is sent back to the House and Senate, and it takes a two-thirds vote of both houses to pass a bill over the president's veto.

2014 Roll Call



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Introduction

The roll call, or voting record, is designed to help UAW members assess the performance of their representatives and senators. Keep in mind, however, that this record is only one basis for evaluating the performance of members of Congress. For example, a number of representatives and senators helped us in other ways, such as providing assistance and support to UAW organizing drives and other issues that impact our members.

This voting record includes votes during 2013 in the first session of the 113th Congress. The UAW was involved in many more issues than those covered here. However, on many important issues there were no votes, or else key votes were unrecorded (i.e. voice votes) or were too lopsided to be instructive.

The last column in this 2013 voting record shows the “Percent Agreed” with the UAW for each representative and senator. This percentage is calculated based on the number of right votes divided by the total number of votes actually cast by that representative or senator.

113th Congress • 1st Session 2013 Senate Votes

1. Violence Against Women Act – S. 47

The Senate passed the bipartisan Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013. The renewal of the 1994 legislation makes it easier to prosecute those who commit crimes against women, including domestic violence, sexual assault and trafficking. The bill also extends protections to gays and lesbians and women of Native American tribal lands who are attacked or abused by non-tribal residents. This bipartisan legislation passed the Senate on Feb. 12 by a vote of 78-22 (23 Republicans and 55 Democrats/Independents voted yes, 22 Republicans voted no); a good vote was “yes.” It was signed into law by President Obama on March 7.



2. Sequestration Replacement – S. 388

Appropriations Committee Chairwoman Barbara Mikulski, D-Md., introduced S. 388, the American Family Economic Protection Act of 2013. The bill would delay sequestration for at least a

year through a balanced approach of new revenues and targeted spending cuts, putting us on a path to finally replace the entire sequester once and for all. New revenues would have included the “Buffett Rule” to ensure that millionaires pay a minimum income tax. At the time this bill was introduced,



113th Congress • 1st Session 2013 Senate Votes

middle-class families, seniors and the poor were already feeling the harmful effects of sequestration, and indiscriminate cuts were raising real concern about our national security. The cloture vote on this bill was held on Feb. 28, and failed 51-49 (51 Democrats/Independents voted yes, 45 Republicans and four Democrats voted no – 60 votes required); a good vote was “yes.”

Budget

3. Senate Democratic Budget – S. Con. Res 8

Led by Budget Committee Chairwoman Patty Murray, D-Wash., Senate Democrats put forward and passed a fair and responsible budget resolution. While budget resolutions do not have the force of law, they set the framework for spending levels used by specific programs later down the road. Chairwoman Murray’s budget tackles our country’s fiscal challenges over the coming decade while simultaneously calling for immediate investments to create jobs and spur economic growth. The balanced approach taken by Senate Democrats was in stark contrast to the House Republican budget, which would have handed even larger tax breaks to corporations and the wealthy. The Murray budget reduces our deficit through both new revenue and targeted spending cuts, while protecting vital programs and investing in education, health and infrastructure development. The bill replaces the sequester beginning in 2014. The budget plan passed the Senate on March 23 by a vote of 50-49 (50 Democrats/Independents voted yes, 45 Republicans and four Democrats voted no, one Democrat did not vote); a good vote was “yes.” The bill has not advanced in the House.

Comprehensive Immigration Reform

4. Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) Amendment, Motion to Table S. Amdt. 1195 to S. 744

This amendment would have prevented the legalization process for undocumented immigrants from beginning until the Department of Homeland Security could certify it had “effective control” of

the southern border for six months. This unclear definition would likely have led to an indefinite delay of the legalization process, and undermine the entire bipartisan agreement in the process. The amendment was tabled on June 13 by a vote of 57-43 (5 Republicans and 52 Democrats/Independents voted yes, and 41 Republicans and two Democrats voted no); a good vote was “yes” on the motion to table the amendment. The amendment was not included in the final bill.

5. Sen. David Vitter (R-La.) Amendment, S. Amdt. 1228 to S. 744

This amendment would establish a biometric tracking system to identify immigrants who overstay visas at every land border crossing, seaport and international airport in the country before eligible immigrants could apply for green cards. This unfeasible system would add enormous cost to the bill and indefinitely delay the pathway to citizenship for those currently in the country. The amendment failed on June 18 by a vote of 36-58 (35 Republicans and one Democrat voted yes, seven Republicans and 51 Democrats/Independents voted no, four Republicans and two Democrats did not vote); a good vote was “no.”

6. Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act – S. 744

A bipartisan group of eight Senators known as the “Gang of Eight” crafted one of the most comprehensive overhauls in the history of American immigration law. The bill provides a pathway to citizenship for the 11 million undocumented immigrants currently living within the United States, including the “Dreamers” – immigrants brought to this country as children who seek to stay and contribute. The bill addresses all aspects of the immigration process from border and enforcement issues to employment verification. Senate passage of this bill was a major accomplishment for all Americans. The bill passed the Senate on June 27, by a vote of 68-32 (14 Republicans and 54 Democrats/Independents voted yes, 32 Republicans voted no); a good vote was “yes.” The bill has not advanced in the House and is supported by President Obama.

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Executive Branch Nominations

In the face of ongoing Republican obstructionism, the UAW and our allies strongly supported a change in the Senate rules to prevent a minority of senators from blocking important Senate business. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid's threat to change the Senate rules by a majority vote broke this logjam. To avoid a majority vote on the Senate's undemocratic rules, Republicans allowed votes to proceed on a full package of National Labor Relations Board members as well as several other high-level executive branch nominees that they had previously blocked. Confirmation of these positions was crucial to maintaining a functioning government that protects working people and enforces the laws of the land.

Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) was created under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010. The CFPB polices non-bank financial institutions, including firms such as pay day lenders and mortgage companies that have histories of exploiting working people. The CFPB protects consumers by carrying out federal laws to protect consumers in the financial marketplace, including writing and enforcing rules to restrict unfair, deceptive and abusive practices. Director Richard Cordray had an excellent record protecting the public interest as the Attorney General of Ohio and as director of enforcement for the CFPB prior to his appointment as director.

7. Nomination PN157-113: Final Confirmation – Richard Cordray as Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Cordray was confirmed on July 16 by a 66-34 vote (12 Republicans and 54 Democrats/Independents voted yes, 34 Republicans voted no); a good vote was “yes.”

Department of Labor

The Department of Labor administers and enforces more than 180 federal laws, affecting the work lives of 125 million workers. The department enforces job safety standards, wage and hour laws, child labor laws and anti-discrimination rules. Its director is in a position to speak out forcefully for working families and their workplace rights, including their right to join together in a union to improve their lives and working conditions. Secretary Thomas Perez has a long track record within his 20-year career in public service demonstrating a commitment to civil rights and workers' rights, including the right to collective bargaining.

8. Nomination PN205-113: Final Confirmation of Thomas Perez as Secretary of Labor

Secretary Perez was confirmed on July 18 by a 54-46 vote (54 Democrats/Independents voted yes, 46 Republicans voted no); a good vote was “yes.”

Democratic Appointees for the NLRB

9. Nomination PN679-113: Final Confirmation of Kent Hirozawa

Hirozawa was confirmed on July 30 by a 54-44 vote (One Republican and 53 Democrats/Independents voted yes, 44 Republicans voted no and one Republican and one Democrat did not vote); a good vote was “yes.”

10. Nomination PN680-113: Final Confirmation of Nancy Schiffer

Schiffer was confirmed on July 30 by a 54-44 vote (One Republican and 53 Democrats/Independents voted yes, 44 Republicans voted no and one Republican and one Democrat did not vote); a good vote was “yes.”

11. Nomination PN266-113: Final Confirmation of Chairman Mark Gaston Pearce

Pearce was confirmed on July 30 by a 59-38 vote, (Seven Republicans and 52 Democrats/Independents voted yes, 38 Republicans voted no,

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one Republican and two Democrats did not vote); a good vote was “yes.”

12. Nomination PN789-113: Final Confirmation of General Counsel Richard F. Griffin, Jr.

Griffin was confirmed on Oct. 29 by a vote of 55-44 (a strictly party line vote, but one Republican did not vote); a good vote was “yes.”

13. Employment Nondiscrimination Act of 2013 (ENDA)

After many years of advocacy, the Senate passed the Employment Nondiscrimination Act (ENDA). We strongly supported the bill. ENDA would protect workers’ rights by prohibiting employers from firing, refusing to promote or refusing to hire employees because of their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity. Unfortunately, House Republican leadership

opposes this bill and refuses to bring it to the floor for a vote. The Senate passed the bill 64-32 on Nov. 7 (Nine Republicans voted yes, and zero Democrats voted no); a good vote was “yes.”

14. Filibuster Rules Change

Unprecedented Tea Party obstruction continued in the Senate in 2013, and in October the Republicans blocked votes several nominees, including Rep. Mel Watt, D-N.C., to head the Federal Housing Finance Agency, along with three nominees to the U.S. Court of Appeals of the D.C. District Court. In response, Senate Majority Leader Reid invoked the so-called “nuclear option,” a change in the Senate rules to end the minority party’s ability to filibuster executive branch nominees. We strongly supported the rules change to allow a majority vote. The Senate voted, 48 to 52 against a motion to maintain the old rules on Nov. 21. (52 Democrats and zero Republicans voted no, and three Democrats and all Republicans voted yes); a good vote was “no.”



Roll Call



113th Congress • 1st Session 2013 Senate Voting Record

UAW Vote Numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	UAW
Alabama															
Shelby (R)	+	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8%
Sessions, J. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	0%
Alaska															
Murkowski (R)	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	71%
Beigich (D)	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	93%
Arizona															
McCain (R)	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	50%
Flake (R)	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	43%
Arkansas															
Pryor (D)	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	64%
Boozman (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
California															
Feinstein (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Boxer (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Colorado															
Udall, Mark (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Bennet (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%

2013 Senate Votes

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Violence Against Women Act | 11. Confirmation of Chairman Mark Gaston Pearce to NLRB |
| 2. Sequestration Replacement | 12. Confirmation of General Counsel Richard F. Griffin, Jr. to NLRB |
| 3. Senate Democratic Budget | 13. Employment Nondiscrimination Act of 2013 |
| 4. Grassley Amendment to Immigration Bill | 14. Filibuster Rules Change |
| 5. Vitter Amendment to Immigration Bill | |
| 6. Immigration Bill | |
| 7. Cordray nomination as Director of Consumer Financial Protection Bureau | |
| 8. Perez nomination as Secretary of Labor | |
| 9. Confirmation of Kent Hirozaw to NLRB | |
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Legend

- +** = A vote for the UAW position
- = A vote against the UAW position
- x** = Absent or not voting
- I** = Ineligible to vote



Roll Call

113th Congress • 1st Session 2013 Senate Voting Record

UAW Vote Numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Connecticut															
Blumenthal (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Murphy, C. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Delaware															
Carper (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Coons (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Florida															
Nelson (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Rubio (R)	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21%
Georgia															
Chambliss (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	21%
Isakson (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	21%
Hawaii															
Schatz (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Hirono (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%

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Roll Call



113th Congress • 1st Session 2013 Senate Voting Record

UAW Vote Numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Idaho															
Crapo (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7%
Risch (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Illinois															
Durbin (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Kirk (R)	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	21%
Indiana															
Coats (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7%
Donnelly (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Iowa															
Grassley (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Harkin (D)	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Kansas															
Roberts (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Moran, Jerry (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7%
Kentucky															
McConnell (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Paul (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Louisiana															
Landrieu, M. (D)	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	93%
Vitter (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7%
Maine															
Collins (R)	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	43%
King, A. (I)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Maryland															
Mikulski (D)	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Cardin (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Massachusetts															
Warren (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Cowan (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+									100%
Markey (D)							+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%



Roll Call

113th Congress • 1st Session 2013 Senate Voting Record

UAW Vote Numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Michigan															
Levin, C. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	93%
Stabenow (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Minnesota															
Klobuchar (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Franken (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Mississippi															
Cochran (R)	+	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8%
Wicker (R)	+	-	-	-	X	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15%
Missouri															
McCaskill (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Blunt (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Montana															
Baucus, M. (D)	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	93%
Tester (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%

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Roll Call



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UAW Vote Numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Nebraska															
Johanns (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Fischer (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7%
Nevada															
* Reid, H. (D)	+	(-)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	100%
Heller (R)	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	21%
New Hampshire															
Shaheen (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Ayotte (R)	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	29%
New Jersey															
Lautenberg (D)	+	+	X												100%
Menendez (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Chiesa (R)				-	-	+	-	-	X	X	X	-			17%
Booker (D)													+	+	100%
New Mexico															
Udall, T. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Heinrich (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
New York															
Schumer (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Gillibrand (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
North Carolina															
Burr (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7%
Hagan (D)	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	86%
North Dakota															
Hoeven (R)	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14%
Heitkamp (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	X	X	+	+	+	100%
Ohio															
Brown, Sherrod (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Portman (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	29%

* Senator Reid's "No" vote was for procedural purposes and does not affect scoring percentage.



Roll Call

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UAW Vote Numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
Oklahoma															
Inhofe (R)	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	0%
Coburn (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	8%
Oregon															
Wyden (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Merkley (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Pennsylvania															
Casey (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	x	+	100%
Toomey (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	14%
Rhode Island															
Reed, J. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Whitehouse (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
South Carolina															
Graham (R)	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	29%
Scott, T. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%



2013 Senate Votes

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Violence Against Women Act | 11. Confirmation of Chairman Mark Gaston Pearce to NLRB |
| 2. Sequestration Replacement | 12. Confirmation of General Counsel Richard F. Griffin, Jr. to NLRB |
| 3. Senate Democratic Budget | 13. Employment Nondiscrimination Act of 2013 |
| 4. Grassley Amendment to Immigration Bill | 14. Filibuster Rules Change |
| 5. Vitter Amendment to Immigration Bill | |
| 6. Immigration Bill | |
| 7. Cordray nomination as Director of Consumer Financial Protection Bureau | |
| 8. Perez nomination as Secretary of Labor | |
| 9. Confirmation of Kent Hirozaw to NLRB | |
| 10. Confirmation of Nancy Schiffer to NLRB | |

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South Dakota															
Johnson, Tim (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Thune (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Tennessee															
Alexander, L. (R)	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	21%
Corker (R)	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21%
Texas															
Cornyn (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Cruz (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Utah															
Hatch (R)	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	21%
Lee, M. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Vermont															
Leahy (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Sanders (I)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Virginia															
Warner (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Kaine (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Washington															
Murray (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Cantwell (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
West Virginia															
Rockefeller (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Manchin (D)	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	86%
Wisconsin															
Johnson, R. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Baldwin (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Wyoming															
Enzi (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Barrasso (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	0%

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Violence Against Women

1. Civil and Human Rights (Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013) – House Passage of S. 47

After failing in their attempt to gut the bipartisan Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the House finally passed the original Senate version of the bill. The Senate version offered important protections to victims, including college students, LGBT persons and communities of color. The bill passed in the House on Feb. 28 by a vote of 286-138 (87 Republicans and 199 Democrats voted yes, 138 Republicans voted no, six Republicans and one Democrat did not vote); a good vote on the bill was “yes.” The legislation was signed into law by the President on March 7.

Worker Training

2. SKILLS Act (Workforce Investment Act reauthorization) – H.R. 803

House Republicans passed misguided legislation that would weaken retraining programs when American workers need them the most. This

bill would consolidate funding for the Workforce Investment Act, lumping 35 existing federal employment and training programs into a single Workforce Investment Fund. This was a disguised attempt to slash workforce training programs. The consolidation of other programs would also undermine the current Unemployment Insurance (UI) system by putting services for unemployed workers in the hands of largely politicized local workforce boards. The bill categorically excludes labor participation in state and local workforce investment boards, again discounting the important role workers bring to job training. The bill passed the House on March 15 by a vote of 215-202 (213 Republicans and two Democrats voted yes, 14 Republicans and 188 Democrats voted no, five Republicans and 10 Democrats did not vote); a good vote was “no.” The bill has not advanced in the Senate and is opposed by President Obama.

Budget

3. House Passes Destructive Ryan Budget Plan – H. Con. Res 25

The UAW and other progressive groups strongly opposed the destructive budget plan put forward

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by House Budget Chairman Paul Ryan, R-Wis. Ryan's budget proposal would have required deep sacrifices by middle-class working families, senior citizens and other vulnerable Americans, while providing additional tax cuts to corporations and the rich. The Ryan budget plan would have made deep cuts in Medicaid, ended Medicare as we know it by converting it into a voucher program, and would have repealed the Affordable Care Act. Chairman Ryan's budget plan is vague on details for achieving his unrealistic goals. However, based on estimates by independent analysts, it could give tax cuts as high as an average of \$330,000 for households with incomes of more than \$1 million a year. For households with incomes more than \$200,000, taxes would be cut by nearly \$34,500. These tax cuts would be paid for directly on the backs of the middle class. Those with children and incomes under \$200,000 would likely see their taxes go up by an average of more than \$3,000 under this budget. In addition, Chairman Ryan's budget would have required deep cuts to job training, education, food, housing, legal services and the advanced technology vehicles manufacturing programs. Despite our opposition, the House approved this terrible budget plan on March 21 by a vote of 221-207 (221 Republicans voted yes and 10 Republicans and 197 Democrats voted no, one Republican and three Democrats did not vote); a good vote was "no." The bill was rejected by the Senate and is opposed by President Obama.

NLRB

4. Anti-NLRB Bill, the Preventing Greater Uncertainty in Labor-Management Relations Act – H.R. 1120

House Republicans continued their attack on workers' rights by stripping the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) of its ability to enforce our nation's labor law. The intention of H.R. 1120 was clear: to stop the NLRB from functioning. The bill required the NLRB to cease all activity without a quorum of board members and would retroactively reverse decisions made after January 2012. This legislation was passed despite the fact that the board was unable to confirm full-term

appointments, and therefore reach a quorum, because the confirmation of nominees was filibustered by Senate Republicans. Under this poorly conceived legislation, workers who speak up for their rights would be extremely vulnerable to employer retaliation. The bill passed on April 12 by a vote of 219-209 (219 Republicans voted yes, 10 Republicans and 199 Democrats voted no, two Republicans and two Democrats did not vote); a good vote was "no." The bill has not advanced in the Senate and is opposed by President Obama.

Comp Time

5. Comp Time Bill, The Working Families Flexibility Act of 2013 – H.R.1406

In a fraudulent attempt by House Republicans to show concern for families, work-life balance and working women, House Republicans passed the draconian Working Families Flexibility Act of 2013. The bill would amend long-standing labor law by allowing private-sector employers to offer compensatory time off instead of time-and-a-half pay for overtime work. Under the bill, employees can only use their comp time at the employer's convenience – in other words, the "flexibility" it creates is for employers, not employees. There is no guarantee that workers could actually take off the time they've earned when they want and need it. While the legislation calls on employers and employees to agree on how overtime will be compensated (premium pay vs. compensatory time off), nothing in the legislation stops an employer from discriminating against those who prefer overtime pay to comp time. Employers could easily cut back on overtime hours for those who refuse to take sham comp time. This would lead to the elimination of overtime pay as we know it. The bill passed the House on May 8 by a vote of 223-204 (220 Republicans and three Democrats voted yes, eight Republicans and 196 Democrats voted no, three Republicans and two Democrats did not vote); a good vote was "no." The bill has not advanced in the Senate and is opposed by President Obama.



Roll Call

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Health Care

6. House Votes to Repeal Affordable Care Act – H.R. 45

House Republicans again passed legislation to repeal the historic health care reform law enacted by President Obama and Congressional Democrats in 2010. Repeal of the Affordable Care Act would have denied health care coverage to millions, eliminated important insurance market reforms, and left seniors and students without important new benefits. Once again, House Republicans marched in lockstep to pass this repeal bill on May 16 by a vote of 229-195 (227 Republicans and 2 Democrats voted yes, 195 Democrats voted no, five Republicans and four Democrats did not vote); a good vote was “no.” The bill has not advanced in the Senate and is opposed by President Obama.

Immigration Reform

7. King Amendment - H. Amdt. 136 (King) to H.R. 2217

During debate over Fiscal Year 2014 appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Republicans passed an amendment introduced by Rep. Steve King, R-Iowa, to roll back the clock by defunding the President’s executive order to enact the “Dream Act.” Last year the President ordered DHS to delay deportations for young, undocumented immigrants who were brought to this country as children and want to stay and contribute. This amendment would split up families and make our immigration system even less sensible and fair. The amendment passed the House on June 6 by a vote of 224-201 (221 Republicans and three Democrats voted yes, six Republicans and 195 Democrats voted no, six Republicans and three Democrats did not vote); a good vote was “no” on the amendment. The bill has not advanced in the Senate and is opposed by President Obama.

REINS Act

8. The Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act – H.R. 367

House Republicans passed the so-called Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act of 2013 (REINS), which would have seriously weakened the ability of federal agencies to issue regulations that provide important protections to

workers, consumers and the environment. This legislation would dramatically change the federal regulatory system by requiring both houses of Congress to vote and approve any major federal rule before it could become effective. The House passed the measure on Aug. 2 by a vote of 232-183 (226 Republicans and six Democrats voted yes, 183 Democrats voted no, seven Republicans and 11 Democrats did not vote); a good vote was “no.” The bill has not advanced in the Senate and is opposed by President Obama.

SNAP

9. House Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Bill – H.R. 3102

After failing to pass a complete Farm Bill in the House this year, the Republican leadership passed a separate bill on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or “Food Stamps.” H.R. 3102 is the Republican plan to overhaul the nation’s largest food aid program and cuts \$40 billion over the next 10 years. It would also reduce states’ flexibility on waivers and increase the requirements to automatically qualify. These cuts would affect a broad array of Americans who are struggling to make ends meet, including working families with children, senior citizens, veterans and adults who are still looking for work. Fortunately, it was blocked in the Senate. The bill passed 217-210 on Sept. 19 (15 Republicans voted no, and zero Democrats voted yes); a good vote was “no.”

Budget

10. House Republican Continuing Resolution – H.J. Res. 59

As the shutdown of the federal government loomed at the end of September, the Tea Party Republicans put forth a continuing resolution in an effort to bully the Senate and the administration into rolling back the implementation of the Affordable Care Act until 2015. This bill was not a clean spending bill to keep the government open, but was instead a politically motivated bill that led to the disastrous shut down. The bill passed the House on Sept. 29 by a vote of 231-192 (229 Republicans and two Democrats voted yes and two Republicans and 190 Democrats voted no); a good vote was “no.” This resolution was rejected by the Senate.

Roll Call



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UAW Vote Numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Alabama											
1 Bonner (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	I	I	0%
2 Roby (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
3 Rogers, Mike D. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
4 Aderholt (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
5 Brooks, M. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
6 Bachus, S. (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	20%
7 Sewell (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Alaska											
AL Young, D. (R)	X	-	-	+	+	-	X	-	+	-	38%
Arizona											
1 Kirkpatrick (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Barber (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 Grijalva (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 Gosar (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
5 Salmon (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
6 Schweikert (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
7 Pastor (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
8 Franks (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
9 Sinema (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Arkansas											
1 Crawford (R)	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
2 Griffin (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%

2013 House Votes

1. Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization
2. SKILLS Act
3. Ryan Budget
4. Anti-NLRB Bill
5. Comp Time Bill
6. Affordable Care Act Repeal
7. King Immigration Amendment
8. REINS Act

9. SNAP Bill
10. Continuing Resolution on Budget

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113th Congress • 1st Session 2013 House Voting Record



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3 Womack (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
4 Cotton (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
California											
1 LaMalfa (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2 Huffman (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 Garamendi (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 McClintock (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
5 Thompson, M. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	100%
6 Matsui (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
7 Bera (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
8 Cook (R)	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20%
9 McNerney (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
10 Denham (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	20%
11 Miller, George (D)	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	100%
12 Pelosi (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	100%
13 Lee, B. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
14 Speier (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
15 Swalwell (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
16 Costa (D)	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
17 Honda (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
18 Eshoo (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
19 Lofgren (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
20 Farr (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
21 Valadao (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	30%

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22 Nunes (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	20%
23 McCarthy, K. (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
24 Capps (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
25 McKeon (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
26 Brownley (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
27 Chu (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
28 Schiff (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
29 Cárdenas (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
30 Sherman (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
31 Miller, Gary (R)	X	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	22%
32 Napolitano (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
33 Waxman (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
34 Becerra (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	100%
35 Negrete McLeod (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
36 Ruiz (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
37 Bass (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
38 Sánchez, Linda (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
39 Royce (R)	+	-	-	-	X	-	-	X	-	-	13%
40 Roybal-Allard (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
41 Takano (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
42 Calvert (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
43 Waters (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
44 Hahn (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
45 Campbell (R)	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	-	0%
46 Sanchez, Loretta (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
47 Lowenthal (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
48 Rohrabacher (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
49 Issa (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
50 Hunter (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
51 Vargas (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
52 Peters, S. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
53 Davis, S. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	100%
Colorado											
1 DeGette (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	100%
2 Polis (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	100%
3 Tipton (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
4 Gardner (R)	+	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11%



Roll Call

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UAW Vote Numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
5 Lamborn (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
6 Coffman (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
7 Perlmutter (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Connecticut											
1 Larson, J. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Courtney (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 DeLauro (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 Himes (D)	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
5 Esty (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Delaware											
AL Carney (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Florida											
1 Miller, J. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	0%
2 Southerland (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
3 Yoho (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
4 Crenshaw (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
5 Brown, C. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
6 DeSantis (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
7 Mica (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
8 Posey (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
9 Grayson (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
10 Webster (R)	+	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	11%
11 Nugent (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%

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UAW Vote Numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
12 Bilirakis (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
13 Young, C.W. (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	11%
14 Castor (D)	+	X	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
15 Ross (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
16 Buchanan (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
17 Rooney (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
18 Murphy, P. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
19 Radel (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
20 Hastings, A. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
21 Deutch (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
22 Frankel (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
23 Wasserman Schultz (D)	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
24 Wilson, F. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
25 Diaz-Balart (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	11%
26 Garcia (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
27 Ros-Lehtinen (R)	+	-	-	X	-	-	+	-	-	-	22%
Georgia											
1 Kingston (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2 Bishop, S. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	90%
3 Westmoreland, L. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
4 Johnson, H. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
5 Lewis (D)	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	100%
6 Price, T. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
7 Woodall (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
8 Scott, A. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
9 Collins, D. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	0%
10 Broun (R)	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20%
11 Gingrey (R)	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
12 Barrow (D)	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	70%
13 Scott, D. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
14 Graves, T. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Hawaii											
1 Hanabusa (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Gabbard (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Idaho											
1 Labrador (R)	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	0%
2 Simpson (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%



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UAW Vote Numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Illinois											
1 Rush (D)	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	X	100%
2 Kelly, R. (D)	I	I	I	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 Lipinski (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 Gutierrez (D)	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	100%
5 Quigley (D)	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	100%
6 Roskam (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
7 Davis, D. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	100%
8 Duckworth (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
9 Schakowsky (D)	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
10 Schneider (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
11 Foster (D)	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
12 Enyart (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
13 Davis, R. (R)	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	20%
14 Hultgren (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
15 Shimkus (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
16 Kinzinger (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
17 Bustos (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
18 Schock (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
Indiana											
1 Visclosky (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	100%
2 Walorski (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
3 Stutzman (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
4 Rokita (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
5 Brooks, S. (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%

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6 Messer (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
7 Carson (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
8 Bucshon (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
9 Young, T. (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
Iowa											
1 Braley (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Loebsack (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 Latham (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
4 King, S. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Kansas											
1 Huelskamp (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2 Jenkins (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
3 Yoder (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
4 Pompeo (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Kentucky											
1 Whitfield (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	0%
2 Guthrie (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
3 Yarmuth (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 Massie (R)	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20%
5 Rogers, H. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
6 Barr (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
Louisiana											
1 Scalise (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2 Richmond (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	100%
3 Boustany (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
4 Fleming (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
5 Alexander, R. (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		10%
5 McAllister (R)											0%
6 Cassidy (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Maine											
1 Pingree (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Michaud (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Maryland											
1 Harris (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2 Ruppersberger (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%



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3 Sarbanes (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 Edwards (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
5 Hoyer (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
6 Delaney (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
7 Cummings (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
8 Van Hollen (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Massachusetts											
1 Neal (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 McGovern (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 Tsongas (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 Kennedy (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
5 Clark, K. (D)											0%
6 Tierney (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
7 Capuano (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
8 Lynch (D)	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
9 Keating (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Michigan											
1 Benishek (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
2 Huizenga (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
3 Amash (R)	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20%
4 Camp (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
5 Kildee (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
6 Upton (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
7 Walberg (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%

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8 Rogers, Mike (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
9 Levin, S. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
10 Miller, C. (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
11 Bentivolio (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
12 Dingell (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
13 Conyers (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
14 Peters, G. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Minnesota											
1 Walz (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	100%
2 Kline, J. (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
3 Paulsen (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
4 McCollum (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
5 Ellison (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
6 Bachmann (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	0%
7 Peterson (D)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	80%
8 Nolan (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Mississippi											
1 Nunnelee (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2 Thompson, B. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 Harper (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
4 Palazzo (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Missouri											
1 Clay (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Wagner (R)	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	0%
3 Luetkemeyer (R)	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
4 Hartzler (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
5 Cleaver (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	100%
6 Graves, S. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
7 Long (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
8 Emerson (R)											0%
8 Smith, J. (R)							-	-	-	-	0%
Montana											
AL Daines (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%



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Nebraska											
1 Fortenberry (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	10%
2 Terry (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
3 Smith, Adrian (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Nevada											
1 Titus (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Amodei (R)	+	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11%
3 Heck, J. (R)	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20%
4 Horsford (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	100%
New Hampshire											
1 Shea-Porter (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Kuster (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
New Jersey											
1 Andrews (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 LoBiondo (R)	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	40%
3 Runyan (R)	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	30%
4 Smith, C. (R)	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	20%
5 Garrett (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
6 Pallone (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	100%
7 Lance (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
8 Sires (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
9 Pascrell (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
10 Payne (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%

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11 Frelinghuysen (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
12 Holt (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	X	100%
New Mexico											
1 Lujan Grisham, M. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Pearce (R)	+	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	11%
3 Luján, B. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
New York											
1 Bishop, T. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 King, P. (R)	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	40%
3 Israel (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 McCarthy, C. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	X	X	X	100%
5 Meeks, G. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	100%
6 Meng (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
7 Velázquez (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
8 Jeffries (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
9 Clarke, Y. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
10 Nadler (D)	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
11 Grimm (R)	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	-	60%
12 Maloney, C. (D)	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
13 Rangel (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
14 Crowley (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
15 Serrano (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
16 Engel (D)	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	100%
17 Lowey (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
18 Maloney, S. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
19 Gibson, C. (R)	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	60%
20 Tonko (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
21 Owens (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
22 Hanna (R)	+	X	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	44%
23 Reed, T. (R)	X	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	11%
24 Maffei (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
25 Slaughter (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
26 Higgins (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	100%
27 Collins, C. (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
North Carolina											
1 Butterfield (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Ellmers (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%



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3 Jones (R)	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	30%
4 Price, D. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
5 Foxx (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
6 Coble (R)	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
7 McIntyre (D)	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	60%
8 Hudson (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
9 Pittenger (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	0%
10 McHenry (R)	+	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11%
11 Meadows (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
12 Watt (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
13 Holding (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
North Dakota											
AL Cramer (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
Ohio											
1 Chabot (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2 Wenstrup (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
3 Beatty (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 Jordan (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
5 Latta (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
6 Johnson, B. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
7 Gibbs, B. (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
8 Boehner (R)	X	-	-	X	X	X	X	X	-	X	0%
9 Kaptur (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
10 Turner (R)	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20%

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UAW Vote Numbers	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11 Fudge (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
12 Tiberi (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
13 Ryan, T. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
14 Joyce (R)	+	X	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	33%
15 Stivers (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
16 Renacci (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
Oklahoma											
1 Bridenstine (R)	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
2 Mullin (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
3 Lucas (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
4 Cole (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
5 Lankford (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Oregon											
1 Bonamici (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Walden (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
3 Blumenauer (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 DeFazio (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
5 Schrader (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Pennsylvania											
1 Brady, R. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Fattah (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 Kelly (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
4 Perry (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
5 Thompson, G. (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
6 Gerlach (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
7 Meehan (R)	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	-	40%
8 Fitzpatrick (R)	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	30%
9 Shuster (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
10 Marino (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
11 Barletta (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
12 Rothfus (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
13 Schwartz (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
14 Doyle (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	100%
15 Dent (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
16 Pitts (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
17 Cartwright (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
18 Murphy, T. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%



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Rhode Island											
1 Cicilline (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Langevin (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
South Carolina											
1 Sanford (R)						-	-	-	-	-	0%
2 Wilson, J. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
3 Duncan, Jeff (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
4 Gowdy (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
5 Mulvaney (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
6 Clyburn (D)	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	X	+	+	100%
7 Rice (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
South Dakota											
AL Noem (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Tennessee											
1 Roe (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2 Duncan, John (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
3 Fleischmann (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
4 DesJarlais (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
5 Cooper (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
6 Black, D. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
7 Blackburn, M. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
8 Fincher (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
9 Cohen (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%

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Texas											
1 Gohmert (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2 Poe (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
3 Johnson, S. (R)	X	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	0%
4 Hall (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
5 Hensarling (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
6 Barton (R)	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
7 Culberson (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
8 Brady, K. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
9 Green, A. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
10 McCaul (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
11 Conaway (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
12 Granger (R)	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
13 Thornberry (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
14 Weber (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
15 Hinojosa (D)	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
16 O'Rourke (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
17 Flores (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
18 Jackson Lee (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
19 Neugebauer (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
20 Castro (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
21 Smith, Lamar (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
22 Olson (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
23 Gallego (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
24 Marchant (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
25 Williams (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
26 Burgess (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
27 Farenthold (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
28 Cuellar (D)	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	80%
29 Green, G. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
30 Johnson, E. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
31 Carter (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
32 Sessions, P. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	0%
33 Veasey (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
34 Vela (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	90%
35 Doggett (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
36 Stockman (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%



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Utah											
1 Bishop, R. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2 Stewart (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
3 Chaffetz (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
4 Matheson (D)	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	60%
Vermont											
AL Welch (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Virginia											
1 Wittman (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
2 Rigell (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
3 Scott, R. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 Forbes (R)	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
5 Hurt (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
6 Goodlatte (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
7 Cantor (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
8 Moran, James (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
9 Griffith (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
10 Wolf (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	10%
11 Connolly (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
Washington											
1 DelBene (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
2 Larsen, R. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 Herrera Beutler (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	13%

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4 Hastings, D. (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
5 McMorris Rodgers (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
6 Kilmer (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
7 McDermott (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
8 Reichert (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
9 Smith, Adam (D)	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
10 Heck, D. (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
West Virginia											
1 McKinley (R)	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	40%
2 Capito (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	20%
3 Rahall (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	90%
Wisconsin											
1 Ryan, P. (R)	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10%
2 Pocan (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
3 Kind (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
4 Moore (D)	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	100%
5 Sensenbrenner (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
6 Petri (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
7 Duffy (R)	+	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	-	11%
8 Ribble (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%
Wyoming											
AL Lummis (R)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0%



