



Communications Workers of America
Claude Cummings | *President*

Government Affairs Department
Dan Mauer | *Director*

June 25, 2024

Dear Representative/Senator:

On behalf of the officers and members of the Communications Workers of America (CWA), I am writing to urge you to cosponsor H.R. 4963/S. 738, the Tax Fairness for Workers Act.

Unions help combat the skyrocketing economic inequality facing the United States by raising workers' wages, closing pay gaps, reducing economic inequality, promoting safe workplaces, and increasing workers' voice in our democracy. Unions play a critical role in addressing inequality and boosting the prosperity of the middle class and one way that Congress can recognize labor's contributions is to provide an above the line tax deduction for union dues.

In 2017, the Trump tax bill eliminated the deduction for union dues to prioritize massive tax cuts for large corporations at the expense of American workers. Prior to that bill, the tax code allowed workers to deduct unreimbursed business expenses, such as union dues, business travel costs, uniform expenses, and professional or training classes.

The Tax Fairness for Workers restores the deduction for union dues by creating an above-the-line tax deduction. This allows workers to claim the tax credit without itemizing their taxes and makes it available to more workers. Since only around 11 percent of tax filers itemize deductions, more workers in various sectors and earning various wages would benefit from this legislation.

Tax-deductible union dues makes dues more affordable and sends a signal to workers that the government believes union dues to be a worthwhile expense like homeownership, charity and retirement savings. I strongly encourage you to cosponsor the Tax Fairness for Workers Act. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel J. Mauer".

Dan Mauer
Director of Government Affairs
Communications Workers of America (CWA)