

Communications Workers of America Executive Board Resolution: Kamala Harris for President

Joe Biden and Kamala Harris have overseen the most pro-labor administration in any of our lifetimes. Upon taking office in January 2021, they faced massive unemployment, an out of control pandemic, and, just a matter of weeks prior, an attempt to overthrow our government by insurrectionists inspired by Donald Trump who sought to reverse the results of a democratic election with violence.

But they immediately took action to save union jobs that were at risk in the midst of the economic struggles created by the pandemic. As part of their first major bill, they saved the pensions of over a million retirees. They have passed legislation to rebuild our infrastructure and create good union jobs in the process, to reinvigorate American manufacturing, to lower drug costs, and to strengthen our rights as union members to organize and bargain for fair contracts.

Kamala Harris has played a key role in making this one of the most pro-union, pro-worker administrations in the history of this country. She has chaired the White House Task Force on Worker Organizing and Empowerment, which has identified dozens of different policy areas that the Administration has used to strengthen rights of workers to organize and bargain and to ensure that workers earn a decent day's pay for a decent day's work.

In the Vice President's role as the president of the United States Senate, Harris has cast tie breaking votes to confirm CWA's former counsel Jennifer Abruzzo to serve as General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, to pass the Inflation Reduction Act to create green manufacturing jobs and to lower our prescription drug costs, and to pass the American Rescue Plan to save our pensions and to dig the economy out of the recession that she and President Biden inherited.

Vice President Harris has met numerous times with CWA leaders and with our rank-and-file members, so that she can hear our concerns and priorities and make sure that we have a real voice in the policymaking process. She has taken what she learned from CWA members into the development of policies by the Biden Administration.

It's no surprise that Vice President Harris has played this key role in forming the most pro-union administration in many decades. As a U.S. Senator she was the lead sponsor of legislation to strengthen protections against heat stress on the job, to enhance whistleblower protections, to provide new protections on the job for domestic workers, and to strengthen accountability for Wall Street executives who take advantage of workers or consumers. She was likewise a proud

original co-sponsor of legislation like the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act and the Public Service Freedom to Negotiate Act.

Even before she served as Senator, Harris fought to protect workers as Attorney General of the state of California. In that role, she signed a landmark agreement with the U.S. Department of Labor to strengthen monitoring and enforcement against wage theft. She also took on the big banks in the wake of the housing and foreclosure crisis.

Kamala Harris's opponents in this election, Donald Trump and J.D. Vance, have records that are the complete opposite. As President, Trump appointed union busters to the National Labor Relations Board and the Department of Labor. He passed a multi-trillion dollar tax cut for the super-wealthy and multinational corporations, and nearly succeeded in taking away health care from tens of millions of people. And, of course, he refused to accept his defeat and attempted to overturn the results of a free and fair election.

Vance is Trump's running mate only because, unlike Trump's previous Vice President Mike Pence, who refused to support Trump's attempt to overturn the election, Vance has said repeatedly that he would've done nothing to stop it and would have happily gone along with Trump's efforts to overthrow our democracy. In his thin record, Vance's signature labor legislation is a bill to enable corporate executives to form company unions that they control. In addition, previous Trump Administration officials have prepared a detailed agenda for a second Trump Administration should he win that is outlined in their Project 2025 which would destroy unions and numerous legal rights and protections for workers.

We are faced with two distinct options in this election. On one side is a candidate who has always taken the side of corporate interests and is advancing a policy agenda for another term that would destroy our union and take away fundamental workers' rights. On the other side is a candidate with a consistent record fighting to empower the working class and unions who has centered CWA's members' concerns in her policies. The choice is clear.

RESOLVED: The Communications Workers of America enthusiastically supports the election of Kamala Harris as President of the United States.

RESOLVED: CWA will organize, educate and mobilize our members to support Kamala Harris for President, to elect members of Congress who support our work to rebuild power for working people, and to ensure that everyone understands what is at stake in this election.