

What is CAP

The UAW Community Action Program (hereinafter referred to as CAP) shall engage in community, civic, welfare, educational, environmental, cultural, citizenship-legislative, consumer protection, community services and other activities to improve the economic and social conditions of UAW members and their families and to promote the general welfare and democratic way of life for all people. (UAW Constitution Article 23)

CAP Role in TOP

Work as a liaison between the TOP Department and CAP Department. A resource in promoting the legislative agenda of the TOP Department in coordination with the UAW CAP Program.

The Power of the Wheel

Since the January 2010, Citizens United v. the Federal Elections Commission ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court, allowing unlimited spending by corporations in candidate elections, corporations have been funding their own political agendas through independent expenditures that were prohibited in the past.

The UAW has approximately a million active and retired members: making the UAW a powerful voting group. Our endorsement is requested by elected officials from all levels of government; federal, state, and local. But once they receive our endorsement, it is up to us to make sure we hold them accountable in working for what is in the best interests of the UAW members, their families and our community.

Legislative Wins

Michigan:

- Democrats wins a state legislative trifecta. The first time in almost 40 years that the Democrats controls the Michigan House of Representatives, Michigan Senate and the Michigan Governor's Mansion.
- Became the first state in decades to repeal a union-restricting law known as "right-to-work" that was passed over a decade ago by a Republican-controlled Legislature.
- Retirement tax rollback could return up to \$1,000 to retirees.

Kansas:

- Fully funded K-12 education for the fifth year in a row.
- Passed a state budget that includes:
 - Pay raises for state employees.
 - Incentives to expand apprenticeships in the state.
- Expands Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) membership to include Kansas police and firefighters.
- Will eliminate the food sales tax on groceries by 2025. The food sales tax was at 6.5%, this plan will cut the food sales tax:
 - to 4% effective Jan. 1, 2023,
 - to 2% effective Jan. 1, 2024,
 - and to 0% effective Jan. 1, 2025.

New Jersey:

- Governor Murphy Signed Pro-Worker Unemployment Insurance Benefits Bill, which addresses certain loopholes that prevented workers, participating in labor disputes (such as strikes), from receiving access to UI benefits.

Illinois:

- Paid Leave for All workers Act will require almost all employers to provide 40 hours of paid leave annually to full time workers and proportionate amount of paid leave hours to part time workers.
- Workers' Rights Amendment added a new section to the Bill of Rights Article of the Illinois Constitution that would guarantee workers the fundamental right to organize, bargain collectively, to negotiate wages, hours, working conditions, also to promote their economic welfare and safety at work.

Ohio:

- Voters defeated Issue 1; a ballot measure that would have made it harder to pass future amendments to the Ohio Constitution. This would have changed the Ohio constitution to establish an individual right to one's own reproductive medical treatment, including contraception, fertility treatments and miscarriage care.

Kentucky:

- Unemployment benefits were at 26 weeks, the GOP wanted to reduce to only 12 weeks. After lobbying at the state capitol, we were successful at getting that amended to at least 16 weeks.
- Governor Andy Beshear's reelection victory allows the democratic party to maintain one of its most surprising footholds in the South. He vetoed a bill that was pass both chambers that would allow autonomous vehicles on Kentucky interstates.

Washington:

- Extended collective bargaining to academic student employees at the regional four-year universities. Ensuring they have the same rights as their counterparts at the University of Washington and Washington State University. Governor Inslee signed the bill in April and 1,000 Academic Student Employees at Western Washington University are currently in bargaining for their first contract, and organizing campaigns are underway at the other regional universities.

California:

- The CA legislators signed letters supporting the formation of Student Researchers United, a union of 17,000 student researchers at UC. This is the largest organizing campaign in higher ed history. The union was recognized and won its first contract after striking for 40 days in 2022 along with 48,000 total academic workers at UC.
- Cosponsored a bill to ensure that public sector workers have the right to respect picket lines. The bill received majority support in both houses but was ultimately vetoed by the Governor. They will be reintroducing it again this year.



"There's a direct relationship between the ballot box and the bread box, and what the union fights for and wins at the bargaining table can be taken away in the legislative halls."

-Walter P. Reuther