



REGION 2B UPDATE

THE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

UAW Family,

In 1970, UAW President Walter Reuther said, "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". Now, breadboxes are no longer as popular as they were during that era, but the meaning behind Reuther's words is as relevant now as ever.



What he was really saying with these famous words was that how we vote directly impacts not only our finances, but how we care for ourselves and our families. Local union and national bargaining teams can negotiate the best contracts possible, but if the politicians that are elected to office are not on our side, they can pass legislation that overrides our hard-fought gains.

This is why the UAW and other labor organizations must be involved in politics. Like any institution, it is our responsibility to work to elect politicians who believe what we believe and who will fight for our members.

In May, the UAW held our biennial National CAP Conference in National Harbor, MD. Politically involved members from all over the country attended in order to receive education about the issues, hear from speakers, and lobby their representatives about topics that are important to working people.

Read on to hear from Region 2B Area UAW-CAP Council leaders who were in attendance and find out what they thought of the conference.



Ben Brady - Local 863 (Sharonville, OH)
Greater Cincinnati UAW-CAP Council Chairperson

"UAW Members have marched in Solidarity not only for better working conditions, pay, benefits and retirement, but have also stood hand in hand to bring equality in society wherever and whenever injustice occurs. The Community Action Program (CAP), works to ensure legislation strengthens labor rights for all workers from collective bargaining rights to social justice that improves our communities and our country.

Amanda Meier - Local 2209 (Roanoke, IN)
Greater Allen County UAW-CAP Council Chairperson

"The conference was all about 'Creating a Path Forward' for UAW members and for all working people. We focused on all the ways we can make a difference in the lives of working people and our communities through legislative action. I left feeling energized, educated, and truly inspired to continue building strength within the labor movement."





Brian Hightower - Local 2335 (Hammond, IN)
Lake/Porter County UAW-CAP Chairperson

"I enjoyed my trip to Washington, DC to lobby on behalf of the UAW . I got to talk to Representative Mrvan from Indiana about labor bills and issues concerning workers. His staff was very informative on the issues. I'm looking forward to the next visit to our nation's capital in 2 years."

Brian Bourff - Local 933 (Indianapolis, IN)
Greater Marion County UAW-CAP Council Chairperson



"The role of organized labor is imperative for the survival of the UAW in the area of EV's and hybrid vehicles. I learned that it is more important than ever to keep our elected officials accountable and to stay engaged in our local elections. UAW members must use their voices and be activists in order to shape the narrative of policies and laws locally and nationally."



Tina Durham - Local 685 (Kokomo, IN)
Howard County UAW-CAP Council Chairperson

"We met with state legislators and senators to discuss Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act, Build Back Better Act, and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act which were just a few we studied and worked with, so that regardless of which aisle you stand on, these acts are for all Americans and for all labor unions. Thank you, UAW, for the opportunity to learn and lobby!"

Marjorie Chambers - Local 1005 (Cleveland, OH)
Northeast Ohio UAW-CAP Council Chairperson



"The CAP Conference was extremely informative, and the workshop kept everyone engaged. The knowledge shared helped us immensely during our Lobby visit on the Hill. During our lobby visit we asked for support on the "Striking Workers Healthcare Protection Act (S.3747/ H.B. 6557). This Act prohibits employers from rescinding your healthcare during a labor strike."

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As we progress through 2022, keep an eye out for communication from us about the issues that impact the lives of all working people. Even if political subjects are not your favorite topic, they shape our daily lives in so many ways. Remember that per Article 41 of the UAW Constitution, it is every union member's responsibility to participate in all local, state, provincial and federal elctions.

In solidarity,

Wayne Blanchard
Director, UAW Region 2B

