

Resolution to Build a Working-Class Political Movement

UAW 39th Constitutional Convention — Detroit, Michigan, June 2026

Whereas, corporate politicians are beholden to billionaires before they are accountable to workers;

Whereas, the labor movement needs bold, labor-championing political allies in order to accomplish the transformational change that will enable us to further organize our sectors and win record contracts: passing the PRO Act, reversing *Janus*, overturning right-to-work, repealing Taft-Hartley, and more;

Whereas, the UAW's broad new organizing programs, contract fights, and May Day 2028 plans would benefit greatly from having members' voices represented directly in the halls of political power;

Whereas, our strongest labor champions come *from* the working class and the labor movement;

Whereas, a new report shows that politicians and candidates with union backgrounds are stronger advocates for the working class and are more electorally successful;¹

Whereas, the UAW has a long history of leading the labor movement's legislative and political advocacy;

Whereas, the 2026 UAW CAP Conference report declared that "we must create and expand the infrastructure to help more members of the working class, including UAW members, run for office at all levels"²;

Whereas, the American public supports unions at the highest level in recent history and UAW endorsed candidates running on pro-union, working class, affordability agendas (such as Zohran Mamdani, Katie Wilson, Claire Valdez, Dan Osborn, Taylor Rehmet, and Mai Vang) are winning races, significantly overperforming trends, and/or polling far above expectations;

Whereas, to defeat the billionaire class, UAW will need to marshal both organized people and organized money on an unprecedented scale;

¹ Unions and Electoral Politics: Can Union Candidates Make the Difference? The Center for Working-Class Politics. https://images.jacobinmag.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/08120545/CWCP_Jacobin_ASU_UnionReport_2026-03-28.pdf

² *Our Time to Lead: Building Working Class Power*. (United Auto Workers, 2026), 40.

Whereas, by establishing 501(c)(4) and independent expenditure committees, Regions and CAP/PAC Councils can create additional vehicles for raising the funds necessary for working-class candidates to win in competitive races;

Be it therefore resolved, the UAW will create a “Members-in-Office Program” which will develop UAW member-leaders into member-candidates for municipal, state, and national elected offices;

Resolved further, where relevant UAW will partner with other unions, labor councils, pro-labor political organizations and strategic issue-oriented organizations to build a coalitional network to win campaigns supporting UAW members, other working-class people running for office, and candidates who do not accept money from corporate PACs;

Resolved further, UAW will recommend that CAP/PAC Councils prioritize expenditures on pro-union working-class candidates, especially for member-candidate development and races;

Resolved further, CAP/PAC Councils identify priority Target Districts and/or Races with high UAW member density and wherein there are UAW local union(s) with developed political programs that can run Member-in-Office Campaigns;

Resolved further, UAW will identify member-leaders in these Target Districts and/or Races and develop them into political leaders who will advance UAW’s progressive, pro-labor, working-class political agenda;

Resolved further, the UAW Education Department will develop educational materials to prepare workers seeking elected office for running campaigns and governing effectively;

Resolved further, UAW will allocate the financial and organizational resources necessary for these member-candidates to seriously contest such races;

Resolved further, CAP/PAC Councils will create Regional Members-in-Office Committees which will assist member-candidates in managing those resources and in writing, organizing for, and lobbying for pro-worker policies once elected;

Resolved further, UAW will help support CAP/PAC Councils who wish to set up 501(c)(4) or independent expenditure committees for fundraising and spending to support UAW-endorsed candidates.

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