

UNITED STEELWORKERS' FEDERAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

CANDIDATE NAME: _____

CAMPAIGN NAME: _____

CAMPAIGN ADDRESS: _____

FEC NUMBER: _____

SIGNATURE OF CANDIDATE: _____

DATE: _____

Upon completion, this candidate questionnaire should be returned to the appropriate USW District Director for consideration. If you need assistance with returning this to the correct USW District Director, please call 412-562-1671.

PROTECT
WORKERS,
FIGHTS

USW FEDERAL CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE, PAGE 1

Our union takes political endorsements seriously. We endorse candidates who pledge to work for a better future for USW members and working Americans.

To the best of your ability, please indicate whether you support or oppose the policies listed below and include written comments if necessary.

1. Global Economy and International Trade

The American labor movement and United Steelworkers remain committed to improving trade agreements between the U.S. and other countries. All too often workers are the first to suffer from the flaws in trade agreements. Will you **support** or **oppose** (circle one) reducing monopoly rights for pharmaceutical firms in trade agreements, strengthening climate pollution enforcement and swift and strong labor enforcement mechanisms?

- a. Will you vote against trade agreements that do not have labor enforcement language included in the text of the agreement?
- b. Will you join letters with your colleagues to highlight weaknesses in trade policies?
- c. What other actions will you, as an elected official, take to ensure trade agreements stem outsourcing incentives and reduce inequality? (explain below)

YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

YES	NO
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Explain: _____

How a product is made and assembled matters greatly in trade agreements. Weak "Rule of Origin" provisions mean non-participating countries can benefit from a trade agreement by doing minor assembly or production in a trade agreement zone, undermining both job and production benefits for trade agreement partners. Do you **support** or **oppose** (circle one) strong "Rule of Origin" provisions in trade agreements; examples include requiring "melting and pouring" of steel products and/or domestic content thresholds in automobiles over 60%?

Explain: _____

American industry and workers have one line of defense against unfair trade: our trade laws. Will you **support** or **oppose** (circle one) efforts to maintain and strengthen domestic trade laws?

Explain: _____

The Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) highlights that there is still over 500 million tons of excess steel capacity globally. This overcapacity is often foreign state owned and subsidized and dumped into the U.S. market. In the interest of National Security, the United States put in place tariffs that have raised privately-controlled U.S. companies' operating capacity by 10% and increased steel production by over five million tons compared to the year previous. Will you **support** or **oppose** (circle one) the 232 tariff relief on steel and aluminum until a global solution is found to address excess capacity?

Explain: _____

Steel, tires, aluminum and others are seeing significant overcapacity thresholds as countries such as China, India, Vietnam and others build additional manufacturing facilities, whether the international market can sustain the additional capacity or not. Will you **support** or **oppose** (circle one) unilateral and global efforts to address commodity overcapacity by other countries ensuring U.S. manufacturing employment is not adversely impacted?

Explain: _____

Will you **support** or **oppose** (circle one) efforts to curb currency manipulation by countries which under-value their currency to artificially boost exports?

Explain: _____

2. Collective Bargaining

Will you support or oppose (circle one) the right to collectively bargain, the right for unions to be recognized if a majority of workers sign a card in support of organizing a facility and increased penalties for employers who illegally terminate employees and/or conduct unfair labor practices?

Explain: _____

Will you support or oppose (circle one) efforts to weaken workers' rights to collective bargaining, or legislation which bars certain classes of workers from having access to collective bargaining? Do you support or oppose the right of workers to organize no matter their employer and will you support or oppose efforts to allow tribally owned commercial enterprises to deny workers NLRA rights? Will you support or oppose giving NLRA rights to farmworkers and other non-covered workers?

Explain: _____

Will you support or oppose (circle one) so-called "Right to Work" legislation – an effort aimed at undermining unions' ability to fight on behalf of workers? Proponents often say "Right to Work" laws have economic benefits, but studies show that states where these laws have been passed tend to have lower wages, poorer healthcare and educational outcomes, and higher rates of workplace injuries and fatalities.

Explain: _____

Will you support or oppose (circle one) union vote suppression legislation which automatically counts non-voting employees in union elections as "no" votes? Will you support or oppose (circle one) legislation which would permit employers to create unnecessary delays in union certification elections or only allow employers to set the appropriateness of bargaining units by overturning the NLRB "Specialty Healthcare" decision?

Explain: _____

Will you support or oppose (circle one) efforts to weaken the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, which protects workers' rights to overtime pay and discourages employers from overworking employees by making it more expensive for them to do so? Will you support or oppose (circle one) efforts to supplant overtime pay with "comp time" or other similar proposals that favor employers at the cost of workers in the private sector?

Explain: _____

3. Healthcare

Workers in collectively-bargained agreements have in the past taken reduced pay in exchange for better healthcare coverage. Do you support or oppose (circle one) repealing the excise tax on high cost health plans (aka "The Cadillac Tax"), which is a 40 percent tax assessed, beginning in 2022, on the cost of coverage for health plans that exceed a certain annual limit?

Explain: _____

Downward pressure to contain national healthcare costs has been based on the premise that patients can shop around for cheaper care, which has led to higher out-of-pocket costs for consumers. Do you support or oppose (circle one) healthcare policies that address system-wide change and will slow or stop healthcare cost shifting to working families and retirees through rising deductibles, copayments, and premiums?

Explain: _____

Do you support or oppose (circle one) policies that move towards a single-payer healthcare system like creating a public option and lowering the eligibility age for Medicare?

Explain: _____

4. Domestic Issues

As a large manufacturing union, the ability to get goods to markets across the globe requires safe, reliable, public infrastructure. Privatization of infrastructure can undermine good public policy and democratic decision making. Turning tax dollars and control of public services over to companies whose overriding incentive is to maximize profits can lead to long-term economic costs and devastating consequences. Ensuring our country's infrastructure moves rapidly into the 21st century requires significant public investment.

Do you support or oppose (circle one) public funding of our country's infrastructure to ensure tax dollars are used to maximum effect and the public good is the primary focus? What ways do you suggest raising public funds for infrastructure?

Explain: _____

Will you support or oppose (circle one) the inclusion of "Buy America" provisions in federal legislation to ensure that goods manufactured in the United States are used when rebuilding our roads and bridges and other infrastructure and increasing transportation access?

Explain: _____

Will you support or oppose (circle one) domestic content requirements in infrastructure funded through public-private partnerships or foreign investment?

Explain: _____

Will you support or oppose (circle one) a preference for government procurement from bidders who maintain high labor and environmental standards?

Explain: _____

Will you support or oppose (circle one) legislation like H.R. 582, the "Raise the Wage Act," which increases the Federal Minimum wage to \$15 an hour by 2024 and eliminates the subminimum wage for tipped workers?

Explain: _____

Climate change is a global issue which must be addressed. Do you support or oppose (circle one) efforts to address climate change that will prevent carbon leakage and incentivize cleaner domestic manufacturing as we strive to reach net zero emissions?

Explain: _____

As our economy continues to change rapidly in response to multiple forces, such as automation and the expansion of new technologies, will you support or oppose (circle one) policies that pair incentives for these industries to grow with strong worker and community protections?

Explain: _____

5. Workplace Safety and Health

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Environmental Protection Agency and others ensure workers have a voice and a clean environment to live and work in. Will you support or oppose (circle one) efforts to reform the regulatory process in ways that will favor big business and deregulation instead of sensible protections for workers?

Explain: _____

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Will you **support** or **oppose** (circle one) cuts to funding for federal agencies that protect workers, including the Department of Labor, the National Labor Relations Board, the U.S. Chemical Safety Board, and the Occupational Safety and Health and Mine Safety and Health administrations?

Explain: _____

Will you **support** or **oppose** (circle one) efforts to delay or eliminate protections for workers who have been exposed to toxic workplace substances?

Explain: _____

Workplace violence toward healthcare and social service workers, who are primarily women, has risen dramatically in the last decade. Will you **support** or **oppose** (circle one) policies to prevent workplace violence?

Explain: _____

6. Retirement Security, Social and Workplace Policy

Will you **support** or **oppose** (circle one) efforts to strengthen and expand vital programs like Social Security and Medicare? This includes policies lowering the age of eligibility, reducing administrative burdens for retirees, and rejecting efforts to “means test” Social Security and Medicare benefits. Will you **support** or **oppose** (circle one) efforts to raise or eliminate the cap at which high income earners stop paying into Social Security?

Explain: _____

We need a solution to the crisis facing some multiemployer pension plans. Will you **support** or **oppose** (circle one) legislation that would extend long-term loans to financially troubled plans to help avoid pension cuts and provide certainty to pensioners?

Explain: _____

Will you **support** or **oppose** (circle one) legislation that bars employers from discriminating against individuals or groups based on their identity including women, minority and ethnic groups, the LGBT community and other marginalized groups? This would include, but not be limited to, efforts to ban discriminatory practices in pay, hiring, promotion, and staffing.

Explain: _____

Will you **support** or **oppose** (circle one) efforts to promote access to the ballot box, including eliminating unnecessary and burdensome requirements of state-issued identification to vote and rejecting attempts to disenfranchise voters by limiting early voting opportunities, wrongfully removing or purging voters from the voting rolls or otherwise?

Explain: _____

Will you **support** or **oppose** (circle one) efforts to ensure access to voting opportunities, including but not limited to, efforts such as expanding early voting, offering same-day registration opportunities, automatic voter registration or otherwise?

Explain: _____

Please use additional page for written comments.

