

CWA COPE – Tips on how to overcome “Yeah butt...”

“CWA COPE money is given to Democrats that don’t support issues that are important to me like abortion or protecting my right to own a gun.”

CWA COPE contributions to candidates are based strictly on the candidates’ positions relating to issues that are important to CWA members. Those issues include protecting our healthcare and retirement, securing our jobs by reducing outsourcing and creating good jobs. While it is true there are more Democrats that support CWA member issues, there are many Republicans too. We are asking you to make a contribution to secure your families futures, don’t you think that is just as important as other issues?

“I don’t think the union should be involved in politics.”

Because of the nature of our work, CWA members are importantly dependent on the decisions of politicians, regulators and other government decision-makers. If we don’t play an active role, we will not only have unfriendly politicians and regulators in office, but our very jobs, benefits and standard of living for our families will be undermined. Contributing to COPE is a critical investment in the future of our families. Our employers are actively involved in politics every day and many of the things they are working for will hurt us. If we don’t get involved in politics on our issues, who will?

“Why should I give my hard earned money to a bunch of rich politicians?”

Big corporations give millions to candidates that oppose issues important to you and me. No matter how much money any individual may have it will never be enough to run a competitive campaign against the corporate dollars, unless the person is Bill Gates. Besides, the majority of candidates CWA contribute to are running for local offices like state legislatures and they are not rich politicians.

“I already pay dues, why does the union need more of my money for politics?”

Federal laws make it illegal to contribute our dues money to most candidates. In addition, when we are voluntarily contributing to the fund, the candidates know that the contribution is coming from all of us and will be more likely to listen to us once in office.

“I can’t afford to contribute.”

We are only asking members to contribute just one dollar per week. If we all pitch in just a small amount we can make a big difference. Whether it’s healthcare or protecting our jobs or benefits, just about everything important to our well-being and the well-being of our families is connected to politics – so contributing to CWA COPE is about the most important investment you can make.