

Barack Obama

July 5, 2008

Mike Futhey
President, United Transportation Union
14600 Detroit Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44107-4250

Dear President Futhey,

Thank you for the endorsement of the United Transportation Union. It is an honor to have your support in this presidential campaign, and I am grateful to the brothers and sisters of UTU for devoting time, effort and hard work to our movement for change.

Our transportation system is integral to our economy and our nation, and we must ensure that the people who run that system are protected by proper labor standards and receive the benefits they earn. Trains should be adequately staffed, and workers must be protected from fatigue through adequate rest time.

My administration will preserve and promote policies that recognize the value of transportation workers. I will preserve the sanctity of Railroad Retirement and Federal Employer's Liability Act (FELA) and push for a fair process to receive and maintain a Commercial Drivers License. My administration will push for Amtrak, commuter rail, and public transit system funding, ensuring strong employment levels well into the future.

I am proud to stand with UTU in our joint efforts to build an America that values the labor of every American and rewards it with a few basic guarantees – wages that can raise a family, health care if we get sick, and a retirement that's dignified. On behalf of your members and their families, I am fighting to make sure that all Americans have access to quality healthcare, enjoy fair treatment at work, and that all children benefit from excellent educational opportunities.

The brothers and sisters of UTU, and all working families, deserve a President who is committed to improving their lives. I will honor that commitment, as I have for over two decades in public life. Your efforts are a part of this movement, and I look forward to working with you, not just to win in November, but to deliver on the change working Americans deserve.

We're in this together, and I appreciate all you're doing. I cannot do this without you, so please stay involved. Together, we will create the changes we seek.

Sincerely,



Barack Obama



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