

WHY JOIN CWA-COPE?

Because state employees and state services are under constant attack, and COPE is one way to build the political power to fight back. Budget cuts, privatization, and our own salaries and health care are all controlled by the Texas Legislature and other elected officials. Politics affects our lives every day.

Money counts in politics. Candidates must win elections before they can help make laws. Grass-roots volunteer work is very important in winning elections, but so are television time and other forms of campaigning that cost a lot of money.

Wealthy corporations and individuals give lots of money to get their friends elected. We need more of our friends in elected offices. We state employees can not afford large individual contributions. We do not control vast corporate treasuries that can give thousands of dollars at a time. But we can make our voice heard by pooling many small contributions so they have a large impact.

CWA-COPE combines our many small contributions so we can gain a stronger voice in the political process.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE MONEY I GIVE? CWA COPE funds are used for direct contributions to the election campaigns of candidates who are committed to support us, and for lobbying and other activities that help us win on issues that affect us and the services we provide.

CWA-COPE funds are divided among the national, district, and local levels for the purposes of deciding how to use them. We receive increasing control over COPE funds we collect as the COPE membership in TSEU increases.

BUT ISN'T THIS WHAT DUES ARE FOR? Under federal law, no union dues funds can be used for political campaigns. TSEU dues funds are used to support basic organizing, to educate & inform our members, and to do grassroots mobilization.

DOES MY CONTRIBUTION REALLY MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

During the last Texas Legislative session, dozens of legislators fought hard against constant attempts to slash our budgets, privatize our jobs, or cut our health care; and they won some of the fights. Many of them got elected with the help of COPE funds. But we don't have enough friends in the Legislature, and many legislators who support us will be targeted for defeat in the next elections. Our COPE contributions help elect people who will stand up for us.

CWA COPE

THE COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL EDUCATION

Yes! I want to help build our political power by joining CWA COPE. I authorize TSEU to draft my account each month for the amount I have indicated and to forward these funds to CWA COPE.

NAME _____ SOCIAL SEC # _____

ADDRESS (STREET/CITY/ZIP) _____

HOME PHONE (_____) _____ WORK PHONE (_____) _____

E-MAIL _____ AGENCY/ORGANIZATION _____

*** IN ORDER TO PROCESS YOUR APPLICATION, YOU MUST INCLUDE A VOIDED CHECK ***

BANK NAME _____ BANK ADDRESS _____

ROUTING # _____ ACCOUNT # _____

DRAFT FROM (CHECK ONE): [] CHECKING [] SAVINGS DRAFT BEGINS MONTH OF _____, 20____

MONTHLY DEDUCTION AMOUNT (CHECK ONE): COPE CLUB: [] \$5.00 [] \$10.00 PLATINUM QUORUM: [] \$20.00 TRIPLE QUORUM: [] \$30.00

FOR JOINING CWA-COPE, YOU WILL RECEIVE THE INCENTIVE PRIZE ASSOCIATED WITH THAT LEVEL (ONLY CHOOSE ONE OF THE TWO PRIZES LISTED FOR THE LEVEL SELECTED)



Note Jotter (black) or Weekender Wallet (brown)



X _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

This authorization is voluntarily made based on my specific understanding that: The signing of this authorization card and the making of contributions to CWA COPE PC Care not conditions of membership in the union nor of employment with the Company that I may refuse to do so without fear of reprisal.