

Section 1: Candidate and Campaign Information

Candidate name:

Melanie Stansbury

Campaign website and/or other social media:

<https://www.melaniefornewmexico.com>

Are you currently an elected official?

Yes No

If yes, position and term(s) held:

U.S. Representative, since 2021

Title of office you are seeking:

U.S. Representative

District (if applicable):

New Mexico U.S. Congressional District 1

Type of election (primary, general, etc.):

Primary

Party registration:

Democratic

Why are you running?

I'm running for Congress because I believe deeply in public service and in fighting for working people across New Mexico. I ran for office to make sure our communities have a strong voice in Washington—one that stands up for workers' rights, protects our democracy, invests in good-paying jobs, and ensures that families can thrive.

I'm running again because I believe that working families deserve leaders who will fight for them every day.

Please briefly describe your qualifications and experience that have prepared you to serve in this position.

In Congress, I've worked to deliver real results for New Mexicans—passing historic infrastructure investments, expanding broadband access across our state, strengthening our clean energy economy, and protecting our public lands and water resources. But there is still more work to do to build an economy that works for everyone, not just those at the top.

Why are you asking for an endorsement from CWA?

The Communications Workers of America has long been a powerful voice for working people and for the fundamental right to organize. I'm proud to stand with CWA members in the fight for fair wages, safe workplaces, strong unions, and economic dignity for all workers.

I would be honored to earn CWA's endorsement and continue working alongside your members to build a stronger economy for New Mexico and the country.

List any past activities with CWA.

Throughout my time in public office, I have consistently stood with workers and unions in the fight for fair treatment and the right to organize.

In Congress, I have supported legislation that strengthens workers' rights and collective bargaining protections and have publicly supported workers standing up for fair wages and safe working conditions. I have also joined my colleagues in standing in solidarity with union workers across industries who are fighting for dignity on the job.

In New Mexico, I have worked closely with labor leaders and union members to support policies that expand good-paying jobs, strengthen workplace protections, and invest in infrastructure and broadband that create union jobs across our state.

I believe strongly that when workers organize, our economy and our democracy are stronger—and I will continue to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with union workers, including CWA members.

What are the main issues that you hope to address if elected?

I am committed to protecting our democracy, safeguarding reproductive rights and healthcare access, addressing climate change through investments in clean energy and conservation, and ensuring that our precious water resources are protected for future generations.

What are your legislative priorities that would benefit working families in your district/state?

My top priority is fighting for New Mexicans and building an economy that works for working families. In Congress, I am focused on expanding good-paying jobs, strengthening workers' rights and the right to organize, and investing in infrastructure and broadband to ensure every community in New Mexico can thrive.

New Mexico has incredible opportunities, and I will continue working to ensure that our communities—especially rural and underserved communities—have the investments, resources, and representation they deserve.

Section 2: Statement of Principles

The Freedom to Choose a Union

As an elected official or candidate for office, I am committed to making our community a better place to live and work. I believe that unions contribute to the economic vitality of our country by playing a key role in making and maintaining good quality jobs that are essential to creating and sustaining thriving communities. I respect the right of every working person to pursue equality, opportunity, a voice on the job and a better life by forming a union. I understand that the decision to join a union should be the free choice of an employee, absent employer coercion. I believe that employers, who interfere with, harass, threaten, or fire workers for trying to form a union—or who deliberately manipulate the legal system to prevent or delay organizing—are harming not only their employees, but our entire community. Such tactics have the effect of denying workers their basic human right to organize and bargain collectively, and drive down standards for the community.

Which of the following actions will you take to support all workers?

I will walk on picket lines and attend rallies in support of workers.

Yes No

I will directly and publicly promote neutrality and voluntary recognition with decision makers where organizing efforts are ongoing.

Yes No

I will directly and publicly urge employers to negotiate contracts in good faith and will offer to serve as an intermediary when requested.

Yes No

I will speak out publicly and write letters to employers and workers in support of workers' efforts in forming a union and bargaining contracts.

Yes No

I will pay all workers in my office and on my campaign a living wage.

Yes No

I will respect the rights of workers on my campaign to unionize.

Yes No

As a labor union, we require campaign material to carry the Union "Bug." Please submit your campaign material to us with this questionnaire. You can find a list of CWA-represented print shops at <https://cwaprintshops.com/printers/>.

Please copy and paste from your campaign's official website your public commitment to investing in worker power and the labor movement and/or your public support for unions and organized labor.

Section 3: Legislative Goals

CWA's National Legislative Goals

Do you support the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act (H.R. 20/S. 852)? Since the early 1980s, the overall rate of unionization has declined in half. That decline creates problems for all workers. While union members consistently earn more than their non-union counterparts, research by the Economic Policy Institute shows that higher union density increases wages for all workers. Weak laws protecting workers' rights to organize and negotiate for better wages and standards have played a major role in increasing inequality and decreasing wages for average workers. Protecting workers' rights to organize by enacting H.R. 20/S. 852, the PRO Act, will create more good jobs across the country.

The PRO Act:

- Enacts meaningful penalties for violations of workers' rights.
- Ends undemocratic "captive audience" meetings.
- Strengthens workers' ability to stand in solidarity.
- Helps workers who have organized get a fair first contract.

Yes No Please explain why or why not:

I support our workers and will always stand up for them and their rights.

Do you support the Public Service Freedom to Negotiate Act (H.R. 2736/S. 1352)? Unlike workers in the private sector, the fundamental right to organize and bargain is not guaranteed for public sector workers. A patchwork of state and local laws provides those rights to public sector workers. As a union representing public sector workers with and without these rights, we believe it's critical that all public sector workers throughout the United States have a right to organize and bargain. The Public Service Freedom to Negotiate Act (H.R. 2736/S. 1352) ensures public employees of state, territorial and local governments have the right to join a union and collectively bargain for better wages, benefits and working conditions.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I support a worker's right to organize and will always stand up for legislation that does just that.

Will you oppose any federal right-to-work (a.k.a. "right to work for less") policy, and use your platform to oppose any such anti-worker bills in your state and broader community?

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I will always oppose any right-to-work legislation.

Do you support the Keep Call Centers in America Act (H.R. 4954/S. 2495)? Call center jobs have moved overseas, downsized, or closed U.S. operations because of exploitative working conditions abroad and a broken tax code that rewards offshoring. And now, new technologies like AI are displacing and degrading call center jobs. The loss of call center work is bad for American workers and communities – offshoring can put US consumer sensitive information at risk and service quality suffers when companies replace live customer support with automated phone systems. The Keep Call Centers in America Act (H.R. 4954/S. 2495) protects call center jobs and consumers by stopping incentives for companies that continue to disinvest in our communities and replace real human customer service with unhelpful artificial intelligence.

The Keep Call Centers in America Act:

- Requires disclosure of call center locations to U.S. consumers and allows customers to request a human or U.S. agent when AI or an offshored call center is used.
- Prioritizes U.S. companies who do not offshore call center work in federal contracts and loans

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I will always fight to ensure Americans have opportunities and that we fight for american jobs. .

Do you support the Tax Fairness for Workers Act (H.R. 2671/S. 1286)? The 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act eliminated the ability for workers to deduct the cost of union dues and other unreimbursed work expenses from their taxes. The Tax Fairness for Workers Act (H.R. 2671/S. 1286) would establish an above-the-line deduction for these expenses.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I support our workers and their ability to deduct their union dues from their taxes.

Do you support the No Tax Breaks for Union Busting Act (H.R. 2692/S. 1310)? Companies are currently permitted to deduct the costs associated with union busting campaigns from their federal taxes as ordinary business expenses, creating a tax deduction for union busting at taxpayer expense. The No Tax Breaks for Union Busting Act (H.R. 2692/S. 1310) would prevent companies from deducting the costs of anti-union activity from their taxes.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I believe strongly in fighting for our union workers. That's why I would vote YES to No Tax Breaks for Union Busting Act.

Do you support the Empowering Striking Workers Act (H.R. 5206/ S. 2731)? In most states, workers who are on strike or subject to an employer lockout cannot receive unemployment insurance benefits, despite having lost their regular income. The Empowering Striking Workers Act (H.R. 5206/ S. 2731) would ensure that all workers nationwide will be eligible for unemployment insurance after having been off the job for 14 days after an employment dispute began.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I support our union workers and their rights to organize and strike.

Do you support the No Tax Breaks for Outsourcing Act (H.R. 995/S. 409)? For years, the tax code has encouraged companies to move money and jobs overseas. Some of the biggest beneficiaries of recently passed tax legislation have been given billions of dollars in new tax breaks while being encouraged to close job sites and offshore American jobs. The No Tax Breaks for Outsourcing Act (H.R. 995/S. 409) would stop rewarding companies that ship jobs overseas and reverse the offshoring incentives embedded in our tax code.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I'm a firm believer in keeping jobs here in America and doing everything we can to ensure their high-paying union jobs.

Do you support the Protect America's Workforce Act (H.R. 2250/S. 2837)? In early 2025, Trump issued an Executive Order that stripped collective bargaining rights from approximately one million federal workers. The order was the single biggest act of union busting in the history of this country. This not only hurts federal workers, but the communities and the people who rely on these federal services. The Protect America's Workforce Act (H.R. 2250/S. 2837) would overturn the executive order and restore the collective bargaining rights for unionized federal workers.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

Yes I support the Protect America's Workforce Act and denounce Donald Trump's attacks on our union workers.

Will you fight to defend existing workers' pensions, and pledge to oppose any attacks on these hard-earned benefits?

Yes No Please explain why or why not

Workers deserve the pensions they've worked for their whole life. I will always fight to oppose any attacks on those benefits.

Will you support the Protecting Health Care and Lowering Costs Act (H.R. 4849/S. 2556)? H.R. 1, the so-called "One Big Beautiful Bill Act," will take away Medicaid benefits from approximately 15 million people. Doing so will also jeopardize hospital finances and drive up health care prices even for those who remain insured. The Protecting Health Care and Lowering Costs Act (H.R. 4849/S. 2556) would reverse those cuts.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

Yes, I support protecting health care and lowering costs.

Will you oppose legislation to create a commission that would fast track cuts to Social Security and Medicare (H.R. 3289)? Legislation has been introduced (H.R. 3289) that would create a commission to fast-track cuts to Social Security and Medicare, including potentially raising the retirement age, lowering COLAs, or creating additional red tape to prevent working people from receiving their retirement benefits.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

Yes, I will oppose any legislation that hurts Social Security and Medicare. Our elders and those who need care deserve it with dignity.

Do you support the Lowering Drug Costs for American Families Act (H.R. 2254/S. 1186)? The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) for the first time gave the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services the ability to negotiate lower drug prices under Medicare, saving money for seniors and strengthening Medicare. The Lowering Drug Costs for American Families Act (H.R. 2254/S. 1186) builds on this policy and lowers prescription costs for millions of families by extending the benefits of lower negotiated prescription prices to people on private health care plans.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I was proud to support the IRA and will support any legislation that lowers costs for American families.

Will you support and strengthen paid leave in all places of employment, including by ensuring that all workers have at least 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave, and oppose any attempts to cut such programs?

Yes No Please explain why or why not

Yes, I support workers having paid leave in all places of employment and will support legislation that continues to deliver on that promise.

Do you support the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (H.R. 2531/S. 1232)? Health care and social services workers suffer workplace violence injuries at far higher rates than any other profession, yet there is no OSHA standard requiring employers to implement violence prevention plans to protect them. The Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (H.R. 2531/S. 1232) would require establishment of a final OSHA standard for these plans and would protect health care workers nationwide.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

Yes I will support the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act

Do you support the No Robot Bosses Act? Developments in artificial intelligence have the potential to displace workers and degrade the quality of work if not implemented with a worker-first approach. The No Robot Bosses Act (H.R. 7621/S. 2419 in the 118th Congress) aims to prevent discrimination and wrongful discipline by prohibiting employers from relying exclusively on an automated decision system in making an employment-related decision.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I will always support legislation that protects workers and their jobs.

Do you support the Stop Spying Bosses Act? Unchecked automated surveillance and management technologies are a growing risk. Employers are using these technologies to monitor workers' activities, both on and off duty, and even punish them without oversight, accountability, or transparency. These technologies are also used to chill organizing efforts and single out and discipline workers who take collective action. The Stop Spying Bosses Act (H.R. 7690 /S.262 in the 118th Congress) creates much-needed standards, protections, and oversight to counter invasive and exploitative technologies that are spreading unchecked.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I will support our workers.

Will you support the Raise the Wage Act (H.R. 2743/S. 1332), which raises the federal minimum wage to \$17 an hour by 2030 for all workers and gradually eliminates subminimum wages for tipped workers, workers with disabilities, and youth workers?

Yes No Please explain why or why not

Yes I will support the Raise the Wage Act.

Do you support the Child Care for Working Families Act (H.R. 4418 /S. 2295)? High quality and affordable childcare is often unattainable for many working families, even though it is 10 essential for a child's development and helps parents to stay in the workforce. Access to affordable childcare enables parents to stay in the workforce, strengthening the economy and a family's financial stability. The Child Care for Working Families Act (H.R. 4418 /S. 2295) lowers costs for families, supports early education, and bolsters the child care workforce.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

New Mexico is leading on this front and I'm committed to ensuring we can make this a reality for every working family.

Do you support the elimination of the filibuster? For U.S. Senate candidates: Senate rules have been abused in order to prevent even a simple debate - let alone passage - of any legislation that would improve working peoples' lives. The filibuster has long been used to block progress for civil, voting and workers' rights and must be eliminated to ensure an anti-worker minority cannot continue to undemocratically block pro-worker legislation.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

N/A

21. Authoritarian state leaders are imposing barriers to the ballot box, making it harder for working people to cast their ballot and have their voices heard. For too long, the American people have been calling for national standards to protect our freedom to vote, ensure fair representation, and get big money out of politics.

The Freedom to Vote Act (H.R. 11 /S.1 in the 118th Congress) ensures working people have a real say in picking our leaders. It strengthens the pillars of our democracy by protecting the right to vote, ending partisan gerrymandering, and reining in the power of wealthy special interests, helping combat the ongoing authoritarian threat to our democracy.

Do you support the Freedom to Vote Act?

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I will strongly oppose any legislation that imposes barriers to voting.

Do you support the Protecting Our Democracy Act (S.2838)? The current administration has accelerated efforts to erode checks and balances, weaken oversight, and use government power for personal and political gain. As a result, it is clear that we are in dire need of pro-democracy reforms that will help to address presidential abuses of power, create more transparency, and establish that no president is above the law. The Protecting Our Democracy Act (S. 2838) addresses these concerns by reinforcing Congress' authority over spending and oversight, strengthening whistleblower protections, closing bribery 11 loopholes, and requiring greater transparency from senior officials. This bill also makes it explicit that campaigns cannot solicit or accept foreign assistance. The passage of these reforms is essential to ensure that no president can place themselves above the law or push our country closer to authoritarianism.

Yes No Please explain why or why not
I support the Protecting Our Democracy Act.

Do you support the Restore Trust in Congress Act (H.R. 5106)? Public office is a place to serve, not to profit. Members of Congress must take a strong stand against corruption and end stock trading by members of Congress once and for all. The Restore Trust in Congress Act (H.R. 5106) prohibits Members of Congress, their spouses, dependent children, and trustees from owning, purchasing, or selling individual stocks, securities, commodities, and similar financial assets.

Yes No Please explain why or why not
I support this legislation.

Do you support universal access to high-speed reliable Internet access that prioritizes fiber to the home and high-road employers who use a skilled and trained workforce? Access to reliable, high-speed Internet is vital to participate in today's economic, education and health care systems. Fiber broadband to the home is the most reliable long-term solution, and its higher bandwidth is essential for an increasing range of uses. Proper buildout is dependent on a high-quality trained and skilled workforce. Provisions that prioritize high-road employers that hire locally and respect workers' right to collective bargaining, while including strong standards that ensure worker training and safety ensure that the job gets done right. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act included provisions designed to ensure universal access to high-speed Internet, but these were undermined by 2025 programmatic changes that mean that many communities will remain unserved or underserved by unreliable satellite or unlicensed fixed wireless providers.

Yes No Please explain why or why not
Yes I support access to high-speed, reliable internet.

Do you support ensuring that "one-touch-make-ready" policies that allow unskilled, untrained, low-wage contractors to move existing equipment on utility poles do not supersede provisions of collective bargaining agreements that ensure that that work will be done safely by highly-trained union members?

Yes No Please explain why or why not
I support legislation that will keep our workers safe on the job site.

Do you support broadening the base to ensure that the FCC can continue sustainably funding these programs?

Congress has delegated to the Federal Communications Commission the authority to run the Universal Service Fund, which provides funding for Lifeline, the E-Rate Program, the Connect America Fund, and the Rural Health Care Program, all of which are designed to ensure that all Americans are able to access phone and internet services at home and at school. However, an outdated funding structure means that it is increasingly problematic to fund these programs using contributions from telecommunications carriers.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I will support legislation that continues to sustainably funding these programs.

Do you support closing the carried interest loophole? Hedge fund and private equity billionaires charge a fee for investing other peoples' money, which is classified as "carried interest" under current tax law. Carried interest is taxed at a much lower capital gains tax rate instead of the higher income tax rate most workers pay.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I will support closing this loophole.

Do you support implementing a tax on financial transactions? Wall Street traders pay no sales tax on their stocks and bonds trades Closing this loophole makes the tax code fairer, raises needed revenue to invest in working families, and discourages dangerous short-term speculation. A small financial transaction tax would have little effect on traditional investors but would curb high-frequency trading.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I support closing this loophole and implementing a tax on financial transactions.

Do you support a ban on stock buybacks? In recent years, corporate executives have used stock buybacks to rapidly enrich themselves— Buybacks manipulate share prices by reducing the number of shares available so a company's value per share will automatically increase. Buybacks often come at the expense of investing in workers and/or equipment.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I support this ban.

Do you support the Tax Excessive CEO Pay Act (H.R. 5298/S. 2818)? CEOs make 290 times more than the average pay of a typical worker. This drives income inequality, highlighting the focus on executive pay over long term investment. The Tax Excessive CEO Pay Act (H.R. 5298/S. 2818) imposes a higher corporate tax rate on companies that pay their top executives more than 50 times what they pay their median worker.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

Yes, I will support this legislation. Our workers deserve to make more.

Do you support the Price Gouging Prevention Act (H.R. 4528 / S. 2321)? Big corporations are raising prices to boost profits and reward executives, all while working families struggle to make ends meet. Corporations continue to abuse consumers' pocketbooks through excessive price increases. The Price Gouging Prevention Act authorizes the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) and state attorneys general to enforce a federal ban against excessive price increases, regardless of a seller's position in a supply chain, which would lower cost for workers and their families.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

Basic necessities are too expensive. That's why I support the Price Gouging Prevention Act and lowering costs for Americans.

Do you support the American Energy Independence and Affordability Act (H.R. 5862)? Increasing energy bills are hurting working families. H.R. 5862, the American Energy Independence and Affordability Act, would help expand production of and investment in energies of the future to help bring costs down for working families, while creating good union manufacturing jobs. The bill would restore the full clean electricity production and investment tax credits for zero-emission power sources, extend incentives for energy-efficient homes, and prioritize domestic manufacturing.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

Absolutely, we need to bring costs down I will support the American Energy Independence and Affordability Act.

33. Do you support ending “Too Big to Fail” by breaking up the Wall Street mega banks and separating depository banking from risky investment banking?

Yes No Please explain why or why not

Do you support the Stop Wall Street Looting Act? Private equity (PE) firms buy companies, load them up with debt, and charge extreme management fees, putting the companies at risk of bankruptcy and workers at risk of layoffs. The Stop Wall Street Looting Act (H.R. 9985/S. 5333 in the 118th Congress) closes the loopholes that let PE firms reap the rewards while avoiding risk by increasing transparency, ensuring they are liable for major debts they impose, and closing tax loopholes.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

Yes I would support the Stop Wall Street Looting Act.

Do you support restoring the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to its full authority, ensuring it has the necessary resources to protect consumers from financial abuse?

Yes No Please explain why or why not

Yes I support legislation that protects consumers.

Do you pledge to speak out and fight against structural racism that still exists within our country today? CWA is proud of our continued commitment to justice for Black and Brown people through our organizing, representation, political, and movement building work. Our diverse membership leads with their values and sense of responsibility to actively fight racism in the union, within the industries we represent, and the community at-large.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I will always speak out and fight against structural racism that still exists within our country.

Do you support comprehensive immigration reform that will grant lawful status to individuals eligible for DACA/DAPA and TPS?

Yes No Please explain why or why not

Yes I will support legislation that works to find pathways to citizenship for those eligible 15 forDACA/DAPA and TPS.

Do you support the continuation or reinstatement of humanitarian and refugee programs such as the CHNV Parole Program, which offer safe, legal pathways for individuals fleeing violence, political instability, or humanitarian crises?

Yes No Please explain why or why not

Yes I believe we need to offer safe, legal pathways for individuals fleeing violence, political instability, or humanitarian crises.

Do you support the Equality Act (H.R. 15/S. 1503)? Despite significant progress, the LGBTQ+ continues to face discrimination across the country, including in the workplace. The Equality Act (H.R. 15/S. 1503) amends the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to extend non-discrimination protections to the LGBTQ+ community and prohibit discrimination based on gender identity or sexual orientation in employment, education, access to credit, jury service, federal funding housing, and public accommodations.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

Yes I stand with our LGBTQ+ community

Do you support the BE HEARD Act? Every person deserves to be treated fairly and enjoy dignity and respect at work. Currently, many working people have no recourse against workplace discrimination and harassment. The BE HEARD Act (H.R. 9228 / S. 4902 in the 118th Congress) ends mandatory arbitration and pre-employment NDAs to help ensure transparency, expands civil rights protections for workers and extends the time limit for reporting and challenging harassment.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I support our workers who deserve to be treated fairly and enjoy dignity and respect at work.

Will you oppose any free trade agreements that do not include strong, enforceable labor and environmental protections? Corporate-written trade and globalization deals have led to the offshoring of millions of good jobs in industries like manufacturing and call centers. These bad deals have also caused a race to the bottom in labor, environmental and public health standards that has weakened our protections and undermined American workers' wages, benefits, and working conditions.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I support holding corporations accountable to labor, environmental, and public health standards.

Will you oppose any free trade agreements that include Investor-State Dispute Settlement provisions? Past trade deals have given multinational corporations special rights to sue in undemocratic "Investor-State Dispute Settlement" tribunals that put our basic laws at risk and make it easier for corporations to offshore jobs.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I will always fight to keep jobs in America.

Do you support the Good Jobs for Good Airports Act? Airport service workers keep our aviation system functioning day to day, yet at many airports workers are scraping by to make ends meet with multiple jobs and no healthcare. The Good Jobs for Good Airports Act (H.R. 1499/S.753) in the 118th Congress) restricts federal funds to airports unless service workers are paid the prevailing wage and benefits.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I support our workers and their right to a living wage with healthcare.

Would you support efforts to address the issue of contaminated air on our aircraft and make flying safer?

Most aircraft provide ventilation air for passengers and crew that has been extracted or “bled” off one or more engine compressors. The only current commercial aviation exception to this cabin air circulation system is the Boeing 787. One issue with the bleed air design is that heated engine oil and hydraulic fluid can contaminate the ventilation air when there is a leak or spill, or sometimes a mechanical fault or failure. The oils and hydraulic fluids contain toxic additives. Also, when they get heated, additional toxic chemicals are produced. This contamination in the cabin and flight deck air is commonly referred to as a “fume event.” Usually, there is nothing to see – “just” a bad smell. Breathing the toxins in the air can have both short-term and long-term health effects. Inflight crews often report headache, disorientation, stomach upset, and maybe burning eyes and throat. Some Flight Attendants and pilots also report long-term symptoms like memory problems, speech deficits, and chronic headaches which can be career-ending.

The bipartisan “Safe Air on Airplanes Act” (H.R. 4994) would fix this potential hazard for passengers and crew. The bill mandates either the installation of filters on the engine bleed air or new aircraft designs, like the Boeing 787, that use non-bleed air systems.

Yes No Please explain why or why not:

I would support this legislation. We have to protect workers and consumers.

If elected, would you encourage the NMB and the Administration to utilize the law as intended, including the right to strike, in order to encourage “prompt” settlement of disputes? The Railway Labor Act (RLA) promotes the “prompt disposition of disputes between carriers and their employees.” In recent years negotiations have dragged on for years because contracts do not expire, they only become amendable, as the law provides every effort to reach agreement rather than disrupt interstate commerce. Historically the question was regularly called on the parties with a firm deadline of “self-help;” the workers’ right to strike or management’s right to impose contract changes or a lockout after a “30-day cooling-off-period” is exhausted. This deadline was only set once the National Mediation Board (NMB) determined the parties were at an impasse on the final key issues in bargaining. But in the past two decades this deadline has rarely been set and the parties have not had to weigh the risks of failing to reach agreement.

In today’s airline industry, management believes strikes will not be authorized, giving them little incentive to work for prompt settlement of disputes. As a result, workers are forced to work without a new contract for years while the cost of living continues to increase.

Yes No Please explain why or why not

I support our workers and their right to organize and if need be strike for their rights.