

Hillary Clinton: On the Economy and Union Rights

The AFT proudly endorses Hillary Clinton for the Democratic presidential nomination, based on her ability to advance our nation's priorities and her record and positions on concerns important to our members.

Economic Fairness

- Roll back the current tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans and redirect those funds to help strengthen our middle class.
- Create tax incentives to encourage the creation of good jobs.
- End tax loopholes that encourage production facilities and jobs to be moved overseas.
- Ensure that trade policies work for average Americans. Trade policies must raise our standard of living, and they must have strong protections for workers and the environment.
- Tie the minimum wage to congressional pay increases; if members of Congress deserve an increase in their salaries, the hard-working men and women at the lower end of the income distribution do as well.

Union and Workplace Rights

- Support the right of all workers to organize and bargain collectively—in both the public and private sectors.
- Appoint people to the U.S. Department of Labor who are truly pro-labor; and appoint pro-worker members to the

National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) who will use their authority to strengthen workers' protections.

- Press for congressional approval of the Employee Free Choice Act, which will level the playing field between workers and employers as well as ensure that employees will not be unfairly punished for attempting to unionize.
- Support the card-check process, which requires majority sign-up, as the most effective way to protect employees' freedom to form a union.
- Support reversal of the NLRB ruling in the *Kentucky River* cases, which opened the door to employers classifying more workers as supervisors and threatens to deny many employees the right to union protection.
- Oppose anti-collective bargaining provisions contained in the U.S. Department of Defense's National Security Personnel System.
- Oppose the practice of companies entering into bankruptcies as a tactical maneuver to shed their pension responsibilities and other obligations to workers.

Prosperity for All

- Propose a \$110 billion economic-stimulus package that includes \$40 billion in tax rebates for working- and middle-class families; an Emergency Housing Crisis Fund; a 90-day moratorium on foreclosures and a five-year freeze on interest rates for subprime mortgages; and extended unemployment insurance for those who are struggling to find work.
- Make guaranteed, high-quality healthcare coverage a top priority, which will benefit workers as well as businesses that compete in the global marketplace.
- Promote a domestic energy industry that will address global warming; jump-start energy research and development through a \$50 billion Strategic Energy Fund that will create at least 5 million clean-energy jobs.

"The foundation of a strong economy is the investments we make in each other: in education, healthcare, clean energy and new technologies. These are the pillars to strengthening our middle class and should be our nation's top priorities."

—HILLARY CLINTON

AFT 2008 Presidential Candidate Questionnaire



CLINTON CAMPAIGN PHOTO



Visit the AFT members-only Web site,
www.aft.org/campaign08.



Mobilizing for Hillary Clinton

Candidate's message on the economy and healthcare resonates with members and voters

THE AFT'S CAMPAIGN on behalf of Hillary Clinton moved on to a new set of states after Super Tuesday (Feb. 5), including the delegate-rich states of Ohio and Texas, where voters will cast their ballots on March 4, and Pennsylvania, which is slotted for April 22. AFT affiliates in these states, as well as Wisconsin (Feb. 19), and Rhode Island and Vermont (March 4), have been mobilizing for many weeks for the union-endorsed candidate.

"Many of us thought the nomination process would be over by April 22," says AFT Pennsylvania president and AFT vice president Ted Kirsch, who is thrilled his state will play a key role in selecting a Democratic nominee.

The Pennsylvania state federation is sending out mailings to members, running phone

banks and visiting members' homes as part of its outreach program, Kirsch said. "Hillary Clinton is clear on her support for universal healthcare, unions and public education, and it's critical that our members know where she stands on those issues and others."

Clinton won victories in key primaries on Feb. 5, including California, New Mexico and New York. "The results again show that voters across the nation recognize Hillary Clinton has the strength and experience to move America forward," says AFT president Edward J. McElroy. "AFT members and other voters are responding enthusiastically to Clinton because they know she is ready to turn the economy around, expand access to healthcare and improve America's standing in the world."

As with the earlier states in which Clinton was victorious, including New Hampshire and Nevada, the union's member-to-member outreach program for Super Tuesday included mailings, phone banking and canvassing

to educate members about the issues and encourage them to support Clinton.

At a rally held just prior to Super Tuesday, Clinton said she was proud to have the AFT's endorsement, noting that she wants to work with educators to come up with "realistic, practical solutions that will really help our teachers and our students."

In addition to the convincing wins in both California and her home state of New York, where New York State United Teachers and New York City's United Federation of Teachers ran an aggressive campaign on her behalf, Clinton scored impressive victories in Arizona, Arkansas, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Oklahoma and Tennessee. The economy was a large factor in Massachusetts, where Clinton highlighted concrete strategies to help protect Americans against the downturn.

"As the campaign progresses, the AFT will continue to mobilize members on Hillary Clinton's behalf," McElroy says.

"Voters across the nation recognize Hillary Clinton has the **strength** and **experience** to move America forward."

—EDWARD J. McELROY, AFT president



Top, Albuquerque Teachers Federation president Ellen Bernstein helps to secure a Clinton win in New Mexico. Hillary Clinton, left, wants to work with educators to come up with "realistic, practical solutions that will really help our teachers and our students."