



SPECIAL ALERT

from the Transportation Communications International Union

Robert A. Scardelletti, International President

TCU Endorses Senator Barack Obama for U.S. President

Monday, July 21, 2008 – The Transportation Communications International Union today endorsed Senator Barack Obama for U.S. President. Here is the announcement from TCU International President Robert A. Scardelletti:

Our nation is in desperate need of a President who will reverse the disastrous course of these last eight years and lead us in a positive direction. The person for the job is Barack Obama. He is the leader who can bring this country together again.

TCU members – indeed, all American working families – find themselves under enormous pressure today just to keep their heads above water, thanks to the policies of the Bush administration. We can expect even worse from Senator John McCain.

McCain has stood against TCU members' interests time and time again:

- He has consistently opposed funding for Amtrak;
- He has voted against security funds to protect rail workers;
- He fought repairing unsafe tunnels on Amtrak's Northeast Corridor; and
- He has even helped foreign manufacturers bid on U.S. military contracts – jeopardizing thousands of good paying American jobs.

McCain supported Bush's plan to risk Social Security benefits through privatization, voted to raise the Medicare eligibility age and missed a critical vote to reduce prescription drug costs for seniors. He opposed the minimum wage increase, yet supported tax cuts for the wealthiest of Americans. He is no true friend to our veterans: he even voted against the Post 9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act which would have eased the transition for soldiers returning home from war. McCain is the American worker's worst nightmare. He must be defeated at all costs.

Sen. Obama has a solid record as a champion of working families. He stands *for* the change America needs – *for* building a strong national passenger rail system by adequately funding Amtrak long-term, *for* commuter transit, *for* good jobs, affordable health care, retirement security, and worker safety. Obama understands the importance of unions in maintaining and building a strong American middle class and the need for public policy that protects working families.

While McCain has stood against us at every turn, Obama stands with us. I have confidence that after his election, when Obama makes appointments to the many agencies

that govern TCU members' lives – the Railroad Retirement Board, the Federal Railroad Administration, and the National Mediation Board key among them – he will remove these institutions from the grip of hostile, anti-union appointees and return them to their original purposes of protecting the rights of American working men and women.

TCU members need action on the issues that make a difference in our daily lives. We will mobilize to elect Barack Obama and a working family-friendly Congress in November.

It is time to turn around America!

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TCU represents 55,000 members who are primarily employed in the railroad industry as clerical workers, carmen, supervisors, yardmasters, on-board service workers and more. Membership also ranges to include workers at Disney World and other non-railroad companies. Top officers are International President Robert A. Scardelletti and International Secretary-Treasurer Danny Biggs. For more information about TCU, go to www.TCUnion.org.