



Facts You Need to Know

Obama vs. McCain: Facts you need to know (Flyer #1); Rail and Transit Worker Issues.

Barack Obama

- As a U.S. Senator, earned a 98percent lifetime rating from the AFL-CIO. [AFL-CIO Voting Records]
- As an Illinois State Senator, earned a 100% lifetime rating from UTU-Illinois. [UTU Illinois Voting Records]
- Supports proper labor standards for transportation workers, including 13c labor protection for transit workers and New York Dock protection for railroad workers. [7/5/08 letter to Pres. Futey; AFL-CIO Records]
- Believes trains should be adequately staffed and workers protected from fatigue through adequate rest, including the elimination of limbo time. Opposed one-person operations in Illinois. [7/5/08 letter to Pres. Futey; AFL-CIO Records; UTU Illinois records]
- Supports Amtrak and advocates for the development of high speed passenger rail networks across the country. [7/5/08 letter to Pres. Futey; Speech to U.S. Conference of Mayors 2008]
- Supports commuter rail and mass transit funding and future growth of these systems. [7/5/08 letter to Pres. Futey; Speech to U.S. Conference of Mayors 2008]
- Supports a fair process to receive and maintain a Commercial Drivers License. [7/5/08 letter to Pres. Futey]
- Will preserve the sanctity of Railroad Retirement, Social Security and FELA. [7/5/08 letter to Pres. Futey; AFL-CIO records]
- Opposes the outsourcing of inspections of foreign trains entering the U.S. [AFL-CIO records]
- Is an original co-sponsor of the Employee Free Choice Act. [Congressional Record]

John McCain

- The right to unionize is “class warfare.” – *John McCain, 1996*
- “I know NAFTA was a good idea. It’s created millions of jobs.” – *John McCain, 2008*
- “I firmly object to Buy America provisions...” [S. 2400, Vote #135, 6/22/04; S. 1050, Vote #191, 5/21/03; Congressional Record, 7/14/05] - *McCain in 2005*
- Voted to gut rail and transit workers’ bargaining rights. [Gramm Amdt. to H.R. 2, 2/4/87]
- Led the fight to privatize Amtrak and supports privatizing mass transit. [S. 2306, 4/8/04; S. 1501, 7/30/03; S. 1958, 2/15/02; Press release, “McCain: Despite legislation, Amtrak’s future remains clouded,” 11/14/97, S. 667, 4/30/97]
- Endangered thousands of jobs by voting 9 times against funding for Amtrak and freight railroads. [S. Amdt 3086 to S. Con. Res 83, Vote #51, 3/15/06; S. Amdt. 158 to S. Con. Res. 18, Vote #51, 3/16/05; S. Amdt. 387 to S. Con. Res. 23, Vote #77, 3/21/03; S. Amdt. 4025 to S. Con. Res. 57, Vote #154, 5/23/96; S. Amdt. 5132 to H.R. 3675, Vote #255, 7/30/96; H.R. 2364, Vote #115, 6/12/1990; H.R. 5205, Vote #265, 7/30/86; H.R. 3244, Vote # 298, 9/11/85]
- Opposes new commuter rail systems and vocal opponent of transit funding. [H.R. 2364, Vote #115, 6/12/90; H.R. 3, Vote #220, 7/29/05; H.R. 2360, Vote 184, 7/14/05; S. 107, Vote #14, 2/12/04; Veto override to H.R. 2, 4/2/87]
- Voted for Bush’s 2006 Social Security Privatization Plan, which could also put Railroad Retirement at risk. [SCR 83, Vote #68, 3/16/06]
- Supports unsafe foreign buses traveling on U.S. roads. [S. Amdt. 1180 to H.R. 2299, Vote #254, 7/27/01; S. Amdt. 1168 to H.R. 2299, Vote #253, 7/27/01; S. Amdt. 1025 to H.R. 2299, Vote #252, 7/26/01; S. Amdt. 1065 to H.R. 2299, Vote #250, 2/25/01]
- Voted against the Employee Free Choice Act card check legislation. [H.R. 800, Vote #227, 6/26/07]