

# North Shore AFL-CIO Federation of Labor C.O.P.E Questionnaire

North Shore AFL-CIO Federation of Labor  
3250 Euclid Avenue, #250, Cleveland, Ohio 44115 216/881-7200

*(To be considered for endorsement you must return this form)*

Incumbent     Candidate for election     Candidate for different office

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (Business) \_\_\_\_\_

Business Name \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Party Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Office you are seeking \_\_\_\_\_

Date Term Beginning \_\_\_\_\_

Do you currently hold an elective office?     Yes     No

If yes, which office? \_\_\_\_\_

List the most recent public offices you were elected to:

1) \_\_\_\_\_ From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_ From \_\_\_\_\_ To \_\_\_\_\_

Education:

High School \_\_\_\_\_

College \_\_\_\_\_

Law School \_\_\_\_\_

Outline Your Labor Background \_\_\_\_\_

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**Your Views on Collective Bargaining**

Most public sector employees in Ohio have the right to bargain with the Public Employer on all matters regarding wages, hours, terms and conditions of employment

Are you supportive of Collective Bargaining Rights for Public Employees, whether they are State, County, Municipal, School or Court Employees as presently outlined in State Law? Please indicate any modifications or changes you believe should be made to this law.

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Many labor agreements contain provisions for binding arbitration or conciliation to settle disputes between public employers and public employees. Some governmental entities automatically appeal any arbitration ruling to court if the neutral arbitrator award should be adverse to the public employer, regardless of the merits of the case.

Do you support the concept of binding arbitration or conciliation and what changes, if any would you desire?

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Have you ever been involved in an appeal of an arbitrators ruling to Common Pleas Court? If so, please explain the circumstances.

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**Your Views on Workers Right to Organize**

Federal labor laws permit the right of workers to organize into a union. However, some employers attempt to create a climate of fear and intimidation in the workplace to discourage formation of unions. Elected officials in the Cleveland area have often helped workers with the right to organize by writing letters, attending organizing meetings or rallies, by attending or participating in Workers Rights Board hearings and other public demonstrations of support. Please explain your participation in any such event or your participation in assisting workers to unionize.

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Would you be willing to publicly participate in the events outlined above in worker organizing drives?

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**Your views on the Living Wage Proposal**

The Labor Movement has long supported issues that help people who are near the bottom rung of the economic ladder. Living Wage is a proposal that requires employers who receive economic assistance from municipal governments to pay a living wage to their employees, provide health care and not resist union organizing drives. Living Wage Ordinances have been enacted in several cities throughout the United States with the support of labor, religious groups and community organizations. Would you be supportive of this type of legislation?

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**Your views on Contracting Out Public Services**

Each level of government and each governmental entity perform vital services to the citizens of this state. The people who actually perform this work and deliver these services are public employees. Occasionally private for-profit corporations attempt to enter into contracts with various levels of government in an attempt to perform these same services, at taxpayer expense; as opposed to having public employees do this work. This is referred to as 'Contracting out,' 'Out Sourcing' or 'Privatization'.

What are your views on "Contracting out" work presently performed by employees who would be under your control, directly or indirectly?

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**Your views on the rights of striking workers**

Private sector employees have the legal right to strike and withhold their services in an effort to improve their working conditions and secure a higher standard of living. In this country a worker cannot be fired or "terminated" for legally striking against their employers. Now, many Employers have started to hire "permanent replacement workers" to replace striking employees who were exercising their equal right to strike. These replacement workers are then retained by the company and ultimately displace the striking workers on a permanent basis.

What are your views on the enactment of federal Legislation to outlaw the practice of hiring Permanent Replacement Workers for workers who are exercising their legal right to strike? Would you be willing to publicly support or endorse your position on this issue?

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**Your views on Tuition Vouchers**

Public Schools are funded primarily by property taxes. The Tuition Voucher Plan uses public tax dollars for private schools, which drains much-needed funds from public school students. This creates a loss of anticipated revenue for the public school system

What are your views on tuition vouchers for private schools?

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Would you favor the expansion or elimination of the Cleveland Schools Tuition Voucher Program?

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**Your views on Prevailing Wage Laws**

When governmental entities contract for building projects, state law requires that the workers be paid a certain prevailing level of pay for performing the work. In Cuyahoga County, this rate is equivalent to the Union Rate. This is commonly referred to as the State Prevailing Wage Law.

What are your views on the State Prevailing Wage Law? Please indicate any modifications or changes you believe should be made to this law.

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**Your views on Project Labor Agreements**

Governmental and private entities often enter into Project Labor Agreements with the Building Trades Council to ensure that new construction projects would be completed on time and be built with Union Labor. Examples of projects built with project agreements would be the Gateway Project (Jacobs Field, Gund Arena), the new Cleveland Browns Stadium and the Cleveland Clinic addition. In 1999, certain members of the Ohio House of Representatives introduced legislation to eliminate the right to enter into Project Labor Agreements.

Do you support or oppose the existence of Project Labor Agreements? Please explain your views.

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**Your views on Worker Compensation Laws**

In 1997, the voters of Ohio soundly defeated State Issue 2. This issue repealed Senate Bill 45, which was passed by the General Assembly and radically changed the Workers Compensation Laws of our State. This was a referendum ballot initiative where Organized Labor gathered sufficient signatures across Ohio to have this issue decided by the people of Ohio.

What are your views on the present Worker Compensation Laws? Please indicate any changes you feel are needed.

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What was your position on this issue and what did you do to affect the outcome of this vote?

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**Your Views on Sweatshop Made Products**

Several governmental entities have enacted legislation preventing various governmental entities from purchasing products produced in foreign sweatshops. Do you support or oppose the enactment of this type of legislation?

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Organized labor has proposed various ordinances that would forbid government agencies buying sweatshop-made products and has supported laws that would establish minimum standards for workers making products for those government agencies. Would you support or introduce these initiatives?

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Please indicate the reasons you believe that you are the best candidate from Labor's prospective and why it is in Labor's best interest to support you during this election.

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Please indicate why you believe the North Shore AFL-CIO should endorse you over your opponent(s).

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The North Shore AFL-CIO is a non-partisan organization and will consider a candidate's support of Labor issues, regardless of party affiliation in the decision to endorse a candidate.

Are you active in either the State or County Democratic or Republican Party? If so, indicate which organization(s) you are active in and the level of your involvement.

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Supporting unions means holding events at organized facilities. Endorsed candidates should hold their campaign events at union hotels and restaurants whenever possible. We encourage all candidates to check with the North Shore AFL-CIO prior to making arrangements for an event to make sure the facility is organized and not on the AFL-CIO Boycott list.

Do you intend to hold all campaign fund-raisers and events at Union restaurants, hotels or other facilities? If not, why?

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If endorsed by the Cleveland AFL-CIO, will you indicate this endorsement on all your campaign literature?

Yes  No

Do you plan to have your campaign literature and other printed items produced and printed by Union Printers?

Yes  No

Do you or your spouse own or lease a foreign car?  Yes  No

Type \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the names of at least one AFL-CIO affiliated Union Leader who would personally recommend your endorsement to the AFL-CIO for the position that you are seeking

NAME	UNION	AFL-CIO DELEGATE CARD NUMBER
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SIGNATURE

DATE