

The Importance of COPE



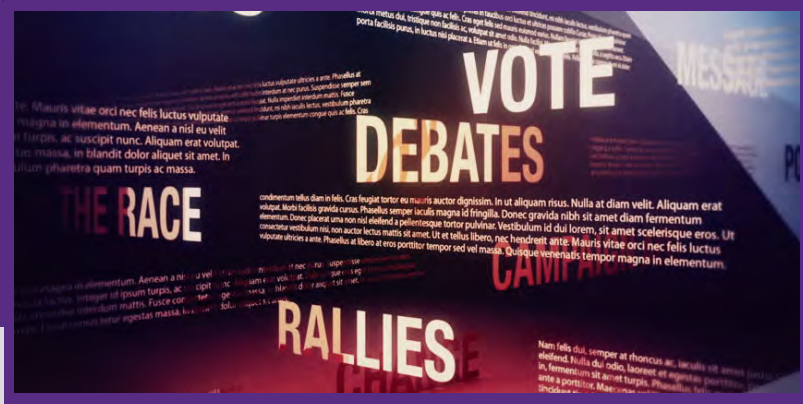
What Is COPE?

The Committee on Political Education (COPE) is made up of SEIU 517M members who contribute monthly to ensure that our union has the necessary political power to protect our hard-earned victories at the bargaining table and in the legislature.

Contributions are 100% voluntary and are used to advance a bi-partisan political and legislative agenda and to support candidates who embody our values and principles.

Why Does COPE Matter?

Regardless of political affiliation, many of the decisions that impact our work, our lives and our communities are decided by elected officials. From **bargaining rights, to job security and working conditions**, SEIU 517M takes an active role electing candidates to school boards, city councils, county commissions, Governor, State Legislature, President, and Congress, who value and are willing to stand up for working family issues.



How Is COPE Used?

Through our member-driven endorsement process, **COPE is used to support pro-worker candidates** for local, state and federal offices.

Like our membership, **we support candidates on both sides of the aisle** and base our support on policy positions, actions and a commitment to protect and expand access to union membership for all workers.

Yes! I want to become a COPE Contributor and do my part to make elected officials listen to working people.

Building—and maintaining—our political strength begins with you. If every SEIU 517M member contributes \$5 or \$10 per pay period to COPE, together as a union, we will have the money to support our vision of a better Michigan.

COPE funds are used to support pro-worker candidates on both sides of the aisle as well political work that benefits members. Dues money cannot be used for partisan political purposes but COPE lets us have a stronger voice in the political process. With your COPE dollars, we:

- Help elect pro-union political candidates, who have been steadfast in their opposition to paycheck deception legislation, pension cuts, privatization, and bills that weaken public employee collective bargaining;
- Mobilize members to advocate for issues critical to working families, such as fair federal and state public service funding, on-the-job worker protections and more;
- Educate political candidates and politicians about the issues that matter to public employees and working families;
- Hold elected anti-worker politicians accountable by educating members about their records and mobilizing them to take action, in their districts, at

Name: _____ Registered to Vote: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Address: _____ Birthdate: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Personal E-Mail: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

☐ **I would like to receive text messages** (I understand that SEIU, its local unions, and affiliates may use automated calling technologies and/or text message me on my cellular phone on a periodic basis. Local 517M and SEIU will never charge for text message alerts. Carrier message and data rates may apply to such alerts.)

Employer: _____ Worksite: _____

I authorize SEIU 517M to deduct my COPE amounts I authorize in the months I work on the following schedule:

☐ 15th of each month OR ☐ 30th of each month OR ☐ Two equal payments on my first 2 paydays of the month

I would like to contribute to SEIU COPE in the monthly amount of: ☐ \$2 ☐ \$5 ☐ \$10 ☐ Other \$ _____

☐ **Option A: Automatic deduction from bank account**

Name on Account _____

Account Type ☐ Savings ☐ Checking

Routing Number (9 Digits) _____

Account Number _____

☐ **Option B: Automatic deduction from credit/debit card**

Card Type: ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover ☐ Amex

Name on Card _____

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____ / _____ Security Code _____

COPE Legal Compliance: This authorization is made voluntarily based on my specific understanding that: 1) I am not required to sign this form or make voluntary contributions to SEIU COPE as a condition of my employment or membership in the union; 2) I may refuse to contribute without reprisal; 3) Under law, only union members and executive / administrative staff who are U.S. Citizens or lawful permanent residents are eligible to contribute to COPE; 4) The contribution amounts on this form are merely suggestions, and I may contribute more or less by this or other means without fear of favor or disadvantage from SEIU or my employer; 5) SEIU COPE uses the money it receives for political purposes – including, but not limited to, making contributions to and expenditures on behalf of candidates for federal, state, and local offices – and addressing political issues of public importance. This authorization shall remain in effect until revoked by me in writing.

Contributions or gifts to SEIU COPE are not deductible for federal income tax purposes.

Typing my name below states that I have received and agree with the terms of this card.

Signature _____ Date _____

Submit Completed Form to Andrea Valerio at avalerio@seiu517m.org