

Worker Control Over Strike Authorization

WHEREAS, the UAW Constitution currently gives the International Executive Board the power to veto strikes even after they've received super-majority membership approval;

WHEREAS, employers rely on delay and division to weaken worker militancy, and requiring International Executive Board approval even after a super-majority strike vote reinforces those tactics by replacing workers' collective judgment with bureaucratic restraint;

WHEREAS, workers organized in their locals best understand the conditions on the ground, the balance of forces with management, and the urgency of collective action, and therefore must retain decisive control over whether and when to withhold their labor;

WHEREAS, true union democracy means that those who bear the risks of a strike—lost wages, retaliation, and sacrifice—must be the same people who exercise final authority over launching or continuing it;

WHEREAS, eliminating the IEB veto over strike authorization strengthens worker power, reinforces local self-activity, and aligns the Constitution with a class-struggle unionism rooted in mass participation and collective control;

THEREFORE, be it resolved that

1. Article 50, Section 1(a) shall be amended as follows (**bold** indicates an addition, ~~struck through~~ indicates a removal):
 - a. When a dispute exists between an employer and a Local Union concerning the negotiation of a collective bargaining agreement or any other strikeable issue the Local Union or the International Executive Board may issue a call for a strike vote. **The Local Union may call for such a strike vote by a majority vote at a Local membership meeting, either a general meeting or a special meeting called for this purpose, or by majority vote of the Local Union Executive Board. Such a strike vote shall also be called if a valid petition by at least one-quarter (1/4) of the membership of a shop is submitted to the Local Union Executive Board. The strike vote may be to directly set a date and time for the strike to commence or may give the Bargaining Committee authority to call a strike if and when it determines.** All members must be given due notice of the vote to be taken and it shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote by secret ballot ~~of those voting to request strike authorization from the International Executive Board.~~ Only members in good standing shall be entitled to vote.
2. Sections 2-4 and Sections 6-7 of Article 50 be struck in their entirety;
3. The following sentence in Article 50, Section 5 be struck: "Wherever the International Executive Board decides that it is unwise to continue an existing strike, it will order all members of Local Unions who have ceased work in connection therewith to resume work and thereupon and thereafter all assistance from the International Union shall cease."