

*"Our union is drifting aimlessly. No longer democratic. Trapped in the corporate agenda. Unwilling to fight for our members today. The UAW needs new policies and new leadership. Through the fight for true democratic voting rights at the rank and file level, and for a true vision of a new direction, we can fulfill our historic destiny and restore real accountability and solidarity."*

**Victor Reuther**  
UAW Co-founder

*"I have always supported the right to cast my personal vote for the International Officers of the UAW. I have been elected as Convention delegate in the past because my fellow members absolutely support that principle. And they know that the International has tricked us out of a Convention vote on the issue before. This time, if we send delegates who can't be begged or bought off, we'll win it."*

**Joe Powell**  
Local 31 Kansas City, KS

This message produced by the  
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UAW



DIRECTIONS

**ONE PERSON,  
ONE VOTE**

**IT COULD  
START A  
REVOLUTION**



## **ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE**

### **IT COULD START A REVOLUTION**

One person, one vote—it's our earliest childhood lesson about democracy. It's a fundamental right which has started revolutions. People all over the world are fighting for democratic voting rights and against one-party state governments.

Most Americans would agree, it's an idea worth fighting for. Our UAW leaders applaud the demand for democratic voting rights in Eastern Europe, Central America, South Africa, and around the world. Everywhere in fact but here.

When it comes to our own union, our leaders sing a different song. They don't want us to have a direct vote for national union officers. And, with the help of the companies and Solidarity House appointees, they are even making it more difficult for us to elect our shop representatives.

Can it be that the UAW leadership doesn't think we're smart enough to choose our own officers? Or, maybe it's that they can't trust us to support their continuing surrender to corporate blackmail.

More likely, they've heard the news—One Person, One Vote can revolutionize countries—or unions—and bring new leadership, new goals, and new directions!

Russian citizens can have Glasnost and Perestroika and new freedoms—why can't UAW members?

## **ONE MEMBER, ONE VOTE—**

### **IT COULD SAVE OUR UNION**

Once the Teamsters Union was synonymous with corruption and undemocratic unionism, and the UAW was considered a relative model of democratic unionism.

Today the Teamsters are being reformed and their members have referendum voting rights for national officers—and the UAW has turned into a "one-party" state.

This change in our union mirrors a sad, and frightening, trend in the UAW leadership. Panicked by the import invasion, job cut-backs, outsourcing, and ruthless corporate behavior, our leaders have lacked the vision and courage to fight-back. They are afraid to tell the membership the truth and risk being forced to develop a solidarity response.

Now that we have adopted the corporate blueprint as our own, they don't want to hear our objections. Over the past few years we've seen the Administration Caucus, led by UAW President Owen Bieber, stuff ballot boxes, coerce voters, and use union money and staff for unlawful election campaign activities.

But a union is not like a corporation. Unions are organized to defend and protect its members. Without internal democracy, direct involvement of the rank and file, and leadership accountability, a union withers away. Right now, we're paying the price for the UAW's one-party rule—in our shops, in our paychecks, in unemployment lines, and in our fears for the future.

## **IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE THIS WAY**

We can change the direction of our union, and it begins with a return to real union democracy, and giving the membership full voting rights.

The 1992 Constitutional Convention delegates have the power change our union constitution to give each of us the right to vote in national UAW referendum elections for the International Executive Board.

That's the demand we must bring to the Convention floor in June of 1992—loud and clear—ONE-MEMBER, ONE-VOTE.

One-Member, One-Vote Petitions are being circulated in plants and workplace all across the country. You can help bring democracy back to our union by adding your name to a petition or help in circulating them and talking to your fellow members about this fundamental issue. For more information, or petition forms and/or copies of this brochure. Write or call:

#### **UAW New Directions**

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One-Member, One-Vote is the key to rebuilding our union as a voice for workers. For revival of democracy at every level of our union...for leadership accountability...for truly democratic debate...for participatory contract ratification...and for union officers who understand that Solidarity, not the corporate agenda, is the UAW agenda. Isn't it time the union trusted us with our own future? Let's bring the union back to the members.

**-ONE MEMBER, ONE VOTE-  
WHERE EVERY MEMBER COUNTS**