

SERVICE EMPLOYEES
INTERNATIONAL UNION,
CTW-CLC



The Committee on Political Education (COPE)

Encouraged to attend:

Anyone currently contributing to COPE or anyone who is interested in learning more about the committee.

This event is family friendly!

**Monday, October 9
5:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.
Dinner will be served at 5:30 p.m.
Union Office - 1811 W. Sunnyside Ave.,
Visalia**

Please RSVP your attendance at (559) 635-3720

If you have any questions, please contact
Our Region 5 Political/Community Organizer
Rob England at (661) 321-4173 or
rob.england@seiu521.org

Why Do POLITICS MATTER to My Union?

seiu521.org

SEIU Local 521 Is Investing in Your Family's Future

As state workers raising families in California, politics affect every aspect of our lives—including the rights, raises and benefits negotiated in our contract. Making politics work for your family and your community begins with your participation. That's why Local 521 members like you are adding their voices to the COPE fund.

To effectively protect your rights, Local 521 must actively engage in electing candidates who believe in—and stand up for—working families. It is important that we support leaders who are committed to a living wage, retirement security and affordable health care benefits at all levels of government from the President and Congress, to California's governor and legislature, all the way to school boards, city councils and county commissions.

What is COPE?

COPE is SEIU's Committee on Political Education. It is our union's voluntary, bipartisan political action committee, or PAC, which amplifies our members' voices in legislative and political activities. COPE is dedicated to helping our union build the political power needed to win strong contracts and better benefits and to pass laws that protect our jobs, our families, and our communities.

How is the money used?

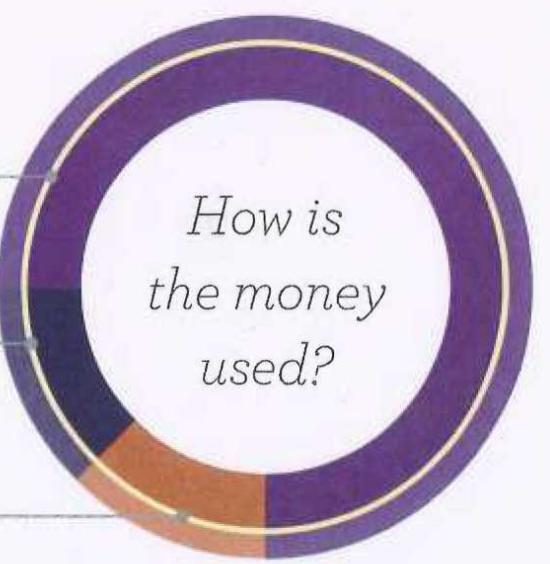
In 2012, COPE's California program was successful in advancing measures that support union families, and all Californians, like Proposition 30—the Temporary Taxes to Fund Education initiative. More important, COPE helped to defeat Proposition 32—the deceptive Paycheck Protection Act of 2012, which actually sought to undermine how much union members contribute to support political activities that protect their interests.

Distribution of COPE Resources

Nationally, 75 percent of COPE dollars are spent to engage voters—putting “boots on the ground” to have conversations at the grassroots level. COPE builds our capacity to reach out through phone banks and precinct walking. We get voters registered and to the polls on election day. This portion of your COPE contribution also helps union locals grow their COPE capacity.

Another 12.5 percent of COPE resources are spent on independent expenditures for direct mail and electronic media for specific campaigns.

The last 12.5 percent is in the form of direct candidate contributions.



How is
the money
used?



A strong COPE fund puts politics to work for Local 521 members and people working together to have a good life, to live in sustainable communities and to enjoy the fruits of social and economic justice.