# Barack Obama, Steelworker Endorsed Candidate for President

Party Affiliation: Democratic

U.S. Senator: 2005-Present

Keynote Speaker: 2004 Democratic National Convention

Illinois State Senate: 1997-2004









### Barack Obama comes from a family rooted in Patriotism and the American Dream.

- Mother grew up in small-town Kansas
- Grandfather was an oil rigger during the Great Depression and served America in World War II, and marched in General Patton's Army.
- Grandmother worked on a bomber assembly line at Fort Leavenworth

#### **Obama reflects on his Grandfather:**

"My grandfather taught me how to say the Pledge of Allegiance when I was 2...

During the Pledge of Allegiance you put your hand over your heart.

During the national anthem you sing." (www.barackobama.com/factcheck)

Member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee

Member of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee



# Leadership and Experience

### Member, Congressional China Currency Action Coalition.

Obama is one of 35 Senators and Representatives that make up this coalition.

#### Member, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Member, Subcommittee on Children and Families Member, Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety

#### Member, Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs

### Member, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations

Chairman, Subcommittee on European Affairs

Member, Subcommittee on African Affairs

Member, Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs

Member, Subcommittee on International Development and Foreign Assistance, Economic Affairs and International Environmental Protection

### Member, Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Member, Subcommittee on Ad Hoc Subcommittee on State, Local, and Private Sector Preparedness and Integration Member, Subcommittee on Investments

Member, Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security



### Leadership on Labor Issues



### Co-Sponsor, Employee Free Choice Act

### Co-Sponsor, Anti-Sweatshop Bill

also known as the "Decent Working Conditions and Fair Competition Act". This bill has been advocated by the <u>United Steelworkers</u> and the National Labor Committee.

Sponsor, Fair Currency Act of 2007 (S. 796)

### Sponsor, Lead Free Toys Act of 2007

"A bill to prohibit the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce of children's products that contain lead, and for other purposes" (S. 2132)

Sponsor, Prevention Through Affordable Access (to Healthcare) Act (S. 2347)



# Comparing the Candidates

Barack Obama

98% Pro-Labor Voting Record



John McCain **15%** Labor Voting Record











✓ Co-Sponsor ✓ Voted in support of EFCA ✓ Has pledged to pass EFCA as President.	Employee Free Choice Act	➤ Staunchly opposes EFCA. ➤ Voted NO on EFCA
✓ Opposes privatization	Social Security	× Supports privatization
<ul> <li>✓ Voted AGAINST CAFTA, and has vowed not to sign unfair trade deals that do not include protections for workers.</li> <li>✓ Introduced Fair Currency Act, and has been a leader on the China Currency Coalition.</li> </ul>	Trade	<ul> <li>X Is a Self-Identified "Free Trader".</li> <li>X Voted in SUPPORT of PNTR (China), CAFTA, Peru FTA, NAFTA, Jordan FTA, Chile FTA</li> </ul>
✓Provide relief for the working families	Tax Reform	➤ Favors the wealthy, with no tax relief for working families



# VS.



✓ Voted AGAINST the war when many from his own party supported it. ✓ Promises to begin removal of troops from Iraq without delay	Iraq War	XVoted to invade Iraq in 2003, and maintains a "wait and see" attitude over the next 18 months regarding occupancy of Iraq
✓ Voted YES on SCHIP.	State Children's Health Insurance (SCHIP)	× Voted NO on SCHIP
✓ Voted in support of, and is a co- sponsor of the GI bill	G.I Bill of 2008 POST-9/11 VETERANS EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT (S.22)	× Skipped crucial vote. This bill received bi-partisan support, and achieved a veto-proof majority.

# John McCain was making a name for himself by:

- imes Voting WITH Bush 88% of the time, and 95% of the time in 2007
- **★** *Voting IN SUPPORT of TEAM ACT (Anti-Union Bill)*
- **★** *Voting IN SUPPORT of:* 
  - X China Permanent Normal Trade Relations (PNTR)
  - **▼** North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA)
  - **X** Wrong onDominican Republic-Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA)
  - × Peru Free Trade Agreement
  - X Chile Free Trade Agreement
  - × Andean Region Free Trade Agreement
  - × Sub-Sahara Africa Free Trade Agreement
  - × Jordan Free Trade Agreement

"I understand why the AFL-CIO and maybe other unions may oppose my free market, less regulation, right to work. I think we have honest differences of opinion. I respect those labor unions but I'm sure that those differences are very intense and very real." -John McCain

### Barack Obama will stand WITH us!!





"It's time we had a president who didn't choke saying the word, 'union.' A president who knows it's the Department of Labor and not the Department of Management. And a president who strengthens our unions by letting them do what they do best – organize our workers."

-Barack Obama USW Convention, July 2, 2008