

# IMPORTANCE OF MIDTERM ELECTIONS

A MESSAGE FROM GENERAL PRESIDENT JAMES P. HOFFA

On Tuesday, Nov. 4, Teamsters everywhere should vote for the candidate or candidates who are best for working families. If you haven't already, start educating yourself on who is running for office and whether your union has endorsed a candidate.

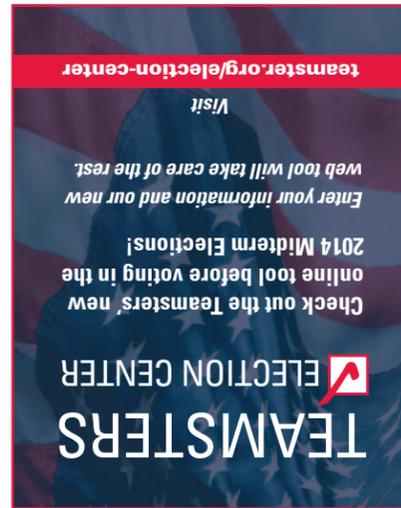
Four years ago, hardworking Americans learned firsthand the consequences of staying home instead of supporting politicians who value their contributions to our nation. Since then, we've increasingly seen the views of billionaire businessmen like the Koch brothers take priority over those of the middle class. At a time when many workers continue to struggle to support their families, we can't afford to sit this election out. So the Teamsters are ramping up our efforts to elect candidates who will listen to the rest of us.

There is no shortage of reasons for Teamsters to care about the midterm elections in November, but here are a few big ones: right-to-work legislation, the minimum wage, and the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)—an unfair trade deal in the vein of NAFTA.

This year, the Teamsters Union has also started an online Election Action Center at [www.teamster.org/election-center](http://www.teamster.org/election-center).



center. On the site, you can find out how to register in your state, as well as access the union's Congressional Voting Scorecard. As Election Day nears, we'll be putting more information and resources on the page.



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# MOTION PICTURE News

James P. Hoffa, General President | Ken Hall, General Secretary-Treasurer | Thomas O'Donnell, Division Director



Over the past few years the television industry has seen a burgeoning market in new media as more and more people consume content on their phones, tablets and computers. Cable television networks have also expanded their offerings, providing high quality programming that competes directly with the major networks in primetime.

Having enjoyed both critical and financial success from their initial forays into original programming, internet-based video-on-demand services like Netflix, Amazon and Hulu have committed billions of dollars to new projects in the coming years.

This year, Netflix informed investors that it would commit of 10 percent of its annual spending to producing original content. This projects to be somewhere in the neighborhood of \$400 million per year. Amazon projects a budget of \$500 million this year to produce approximately 10 shows while Hulu has announced it will launch six more shows in 2014, adding to the nine created since 2011.

What does this mean for the Teamsters? Put simply, it means jobs for members across the country.

"Television production has ramped up considerably with cable and new media companies becoming

more serious about producing content," said Motion Picture and Theatrical Trade Division Director Tom O'Donnell. "In New York alone, Teamsters worked on 65 television shows this year – 17 new series and 27 new TV pilots."

Teamsters nationwide are working on television projects from every major network, premium channels like HBO, Showtime, Starz and Cinemax, and cable channels including FX, USA Network, TNT, Bravo and Comedy Central. With new media providers getting into the game, members are doing more work for the small screen than they have in years.

Local 727 members are currently working on a new sci-fi Netflix series from the makers of "The Matrix" called "Sense8." The latest project from the Wachowskis, the 10-episode first season is filming at Cinespace Chicago Film Studios and on location throughout the city.

"One of the great things about online series like this one is that there is no pilot process. Right out of the gate, our members know they'll be working on 10 episodes of this new show," said John Coli Jr., President of Local 727. "That's what we love to see – long-term, steady work."

## TAKE A STAND

There is a war going on right here in America.

It's a war that doesn't get headlines everyday. It's a war that is waged on a battlefield where money is the primary weapon. Every middle class worker is a soldier in the war, but few even realize they are under attack.

Factions backed by billionaires like the Koch brothers, are systematically attacking our way of life by pouring money into elections, backing anti-worker, anti-union candidates. They know that the more politicians they purchase and get into office, the easier it will be to pass legislation designed to dismantle basic worker protections and rights.

We've seen them attack workers in Michigan and Indiana where they pushed through right-to-work for less legislation. These groups have one goal – destroy the strongest advocate for working men and women: unions.

But even with all the millions of dollars these groups have, they cannot combat us in the one place that matters most – the voting booth. We can defeat them at the ballot box, and stop them from putting another puppet politician in office to do their bidding.

So in November, don't stand on the sidelines – get out and vote! If you're not registered, call your local union and they will help you. And if you are registered, don't go vote alone. Bring your friends and family so they can exercise their right to vote.

Take a stand in this war on workers and don't let them win.



## Netflix Hit 'House of Cards' Brings D.C. Politics to Baltimore

If you haven't watched the critically acclaimed Netflix series "House of Cards," get ready for a spoiler – actor Kevin Spacey's character, Francis Underwood, is a conniving, scheming, heartless politician. However, he is also wickedly entertaining and one of the primary reasons why the series was renewed for its third season.

When it premiered on Netflix, "House of Cards" was part of new breed of entertainment, fully conceived, produced and released for the video-on-demand subscribers. In fact, it can be argued that the show's success was one of the reasons the new media area has grown so rapidly.

However, if you expect to see the crew running around our nation's capital from one location to another, you'll be disappointed. The Washington, D.C.-based drama is actually shot 30 miles north in Baltimore.

Local 355 members work on "House of Cards," at locations throughout Charm City, bringing steady work to the more than 40 Teamsters and 250 union members employed by the show.

"Working on 'House of Cards' has been a fantastic experience," said Kenny Ziegler, transportation captain on the show. "The increased production for all the television and online shows we do here in Baltimore have really kept us busy."

Baltimore has been a popular stand-in for Washington in the past, serving as the home of movies like "Absolute Power," "Along Came a Spider" and "Live Free or Die Hard," and television shows like the current HBO hit comedy, "VEEP."

"We've had a lot production here in Baltimore, studios keep bringing more work here," said Denis Taylor, President of Local 355. "I'm proud that studios and producers know they can count on receiving high-quality labor for TV and film production in Baltimore."

### STAY CONNECTED

Visit [teamster.org/election-center](http://teamster.org/election-center), the union's new online tool, for the Teamsters Congressional Voting Scorecard and other features. For more information about DRIVE, the union's political action committee, visit [teamster.org/content/about-drive](http://teamster.org/content/about-drive).

## ELECTION DAY MOTIVATES TEAMSTERS



### GETTING OUT THE VOTE ON NOVEMBER 4

The November mid-term elections are right around the corner, and the Teamsters are gearing up to help elect candidates to Congress and in state capitals that put workers' interests ahead of those of big business.

Teamsters General President James P. Hoffa and Secretary-Treasurer Ken Hall are visiting states across the country in an effort to get members out to vote. And they will use the 2010 election cycle as an example of what can happen to workers when they don't show up at the polls.

"Four years ago, hardworking Americans learned firsthand the consequences of staying home instead of supporting politicians who value their contributions to our nation," Hoffa said. "Since then, we've increasingly seen the views of billionaire businessmen like the Koch brothers take priority over those of the middle class. At a time when many workers continue to struggle to support their families, we can't afford to sit this election out. So the Teamsters are ramping up our efforts to elect candidates who will listen to the rest of us."

Teamster leaders and members across the country are already preparing to make sure every Teamster knows the issues, who stands with them and what is at stake in this election. And the level of activity will continue to escalate right up until the election.

Hundreds of Teamster members will be visiting their fellow members at their worksites to discuss the election and the issues. The Teamsters Union has the most aggressive worksite communication programs in organized labor, with voter registration taking on a more important role.

There are many reasons for Teamsters to be motivated to vote this November. They may not be the issues that get highlighted on the evening news, but they are matters

that could affect workers' wallets when it comes to pay and job security. Issues like right to work, the minimum wage, worker misclassification and the Trans-Pacific Partnership will all come before the next Congress.

On Election Day, 36 states will hold gubernatorial elections. In the United States Senate, 33 seats are being contested. Wherever there is an important election for working families, the Teamsters Union will be there.

## Weekly News for Working Families



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