

TEAMSTER PLEDGE

Retirement Security

The Teamsters Union believes that all hard-working Americans should share in the American dream of living their golden years without fear of poverty. Multiemployer pensions are insured by the federal Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC). The PBGC's multiemployer pension insurance program is currently projected to become insolvent in FY2025, threatening workers with near-total loss of their pension benefits. At the same time, the nation's largest multiemployer pension plans are on the verge of collapse because they are paying out more money each year in pensions than they're receiving through employer contributions and investment earnings. There are about 1.5 million retirees in desperate need of quick action to save the retirement nest eggs they spent decades contributing to. There also are hundreds of thousands of active workers who are enrolled in these pension plans who deserve assistance, too. As it stands, there are more than 300 multiemployer plans across the country that are in danger of failing.

I pledge that as President I will prioritize and work with Congress to advance legislation to protect pensions and solve the multiemployer pension funding crisis. I support bipartisan legislation introduced both in the 115th and 116th Congress (S.2147/HR4444 and HR 397, respectively) to create a loan program to put troubled plans on a path to solvency. As President, I will sign legislation similar to those bills, or another policy solution passed by Congress that would also set troubled plans on a path to solvency without asking for additional sacrifice from active and retired workers.



Freedom to Form a Union

The Teamsters Union believes that giving working people the freedom to form unions and bargain collectively is essential to strengthen our economy and rebuild the middle class. In recent years, we have seen collective bargaining rights attacked at all levels and branches of government. Working people need a champion on their side who will protect and strengthen collective bargaining, labor and safety rights and standards.

I pledge that as President I will prioritize and work with Congress to enact laws that protect the rights and strengthen the ability of workers to join a union with meaningful penalties against employers who interfere with, coerce, or fire workers for attempting to join a union.



Fair Trade

The Teamsters Union supports legislation to establish a new trade policy framework for the country, one that protects all working people; respects and enforces basic labor rights; creates and protects good jobs at home and supports equitable, sustainable and democratic development abroad.

I pledge that as President, I will support a trade agenda that protects all working people; respects and enforces basic labor rights; creates and protects good jobs at home and supports equitable, sustainable and democratic development abroad. I will oppose all proposed trade agreements that do not embody these principles.



*On Pensions:

As President, I will protect and expand pension benefits of employees in both the public and the private sector.

Because of a change in law instituted in the dead of night and against the strong opposition by Senator Sanders, it is now legal to cut the earned pension benefits of more than 1.5 million workers and retirees in multi-employer pension plans. That is absolutely unacceptable.

As president, I will sign an executive order to impose a moratorium on future pension cuts and would reverse the cuts to retirement benefits that have already been made. In addition, I will fight to implement the Keep Our Pension Promises Act I first introduced in 2015 to prevent the pensions of up to 10 million Americans from being cut.

Instead of asking retirees to take a massive cut in their pension benefits, we will make multi-employer plans solvent by closing egregious loopholes that allow the wealthiest Americans in this country to avoid paying their fair share of taxes.

If Congress could provide a multi-trillion bailout to Wall Street and foreign banks in 2008, we can and we must protect the pensions that were promised to millions of Americans.