2019 Dutiful Dues Resolution for UPTE-CWA 9119

Whereas the money brought in by dues toward union activities should not knowingly harm the union and its efforts, UPTE-CWA 9119 recognizes the need for awareness of who profits from our purchases and brands associated with our union and its members when representing UPTE-CWA 9119.

Furthermore UPTE-CWA 9119 acknowledges the need to recognize and encourage sound policy and dedicated leadership that work toward limiting, reducing, and when possible eradicating the use of brands and products from which the profits are used, in whole or in part, against UPTE-CWA 9119 specifically or the labor/union movement generally.

To live up to the values that fuel our work for working families, to build a stronger union movement and to ensure that we do as little harm as possible, UPTE-CWA 9119 gives special recognition of harm to Koch Industries. Koch Industries are behind the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) and has spent more than $34 million on groups and organizations that work against workers rights. They fund Americans for Prosperity, a group that led Governor Scott Walker’s efforts against unions and workers rights. Americans for Prosperity has also fought against health care reform. They fund organizations such as The Freedom Foundation, who are responsible for direct attacks on our union through their push for “right-to-work” legislation and backing the Janus court case.

Furthermore UPTE-CWA 9119 gives special recognition of harm to Nestle. Nestle has been sued repeatedly in world courts regarding enslavement and for violating child labor laws. Nestle is also the largest water bottle supply company in the world. Chairman Peter Brabeck-Letmathe said:

“There are two different opinions on the matter [or water]. The one opinion, which I think is extreme, is represented by the NGOs, who bang on about declaring water a public right. That means that as a human being you should have a right to water. That’s an extreme solution.”

Therefore be it resolved:

That after this current convention UPTE-CWA 9119 will distribute a list of brands associated with both Koch Industries and Nestle to members of the systemwide executive board;

That UPTE-CWA 9119 will work toward limiting, reducing, and when possible eradicating the use of brands and products from which the profits are used, in whole or in part, against UPTE-CWA 9119 specifically or the labor/union movement generally and encourage the use and purchase of more labor-friendly alternatives;

That UPTE-CWA 9119 update and maintain this list at least once a year.

Submitted on 3.30.19 by: Erich Wise, UCI Co-Submitted on 3.30.19 by: Margaret Sheridan, UCSD