

NEW YORK STATE COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM (CAP) COUNCIL

REGION 9

Daniel Vicente

Regional Director

Raymond Jensen, Jr.

Assistant Regional Director

Wence Valentin, III

Political Director



REGION 9A

Brandon Mancilla

Regional Director

Vail Kohnert-Yount

Assistant Regional Director

Aaron Eisenberg

Political Director

January 25, 2024

To: Presidents, 1st Vice Presidents, Recording Secretaries, Financial Secretaries, CAP Chairpersons, Bargaining Chairpersons, and Retiree Chairpersons of UAW Locals in New York State, UAW Regions 9 & 9A

Greetings:

**2024 Political Education/Lobbying Conference
Sunday, March 10, through Wednesday, March 13, 2024**

We are very excited to be holding our annual Lobbying Conference in Albany. The many issues we will be lobbying on will include but are not limited to the following: Warranty Services; Empire Act; Unemployment; Paid Medical Leave; NY Health Act; Workers Compensation; Union Made in NY; and Property Tax Freeze for Seniors.

Hotel Information: The Conference will take place at the Desmond Hotel located at 660 Albany Shaker Road, Albany, NY 12211. A block of rooms under **"UAW"** have been set aside at a rate of \$169.86 per night (\$149 + \$20.86 tax).

FEBRUARY 14, 2024, is the cutoff for hotel rooms.

Hotel reservations can be made by one of the following options:

1. Call the hotel directly at 518-869-8100 and tell hotel you are with group code **UAW**.
2. Click on the following link: **UAW 2024 Albany Conference** (*control + click*). If you do not have the link via email, call Laura at 716-632-1540 or email her at lwiniarski@uaw.net and she will email you the link.
3. Go to hotel's website www.desmondhotelsalbany.com and in upper right-hand corner, click on "BOOK NOW". Put in the dates you are staying. Click on the group rate circle and in the box type in **"UAW"**.
4. The online reservation booking link automatically defaults to a specified date. If you need to change dates, in upper right corner, click on "change search".

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2024 Political Education/Lobbying Conference continued....

Registration Form: Please complete and return the enclosed registration form to Laura by **February 14th**. The information on this form allows us to properly put together the teams and hopefully connect a constituent with his/her representative.

If you are attending the conference, but are not lobbying on a team, please note that on the registration form. Also please list any dietary restrictions.

Retirees Team: There has been a request for a team that has a lighter schedule with fewer appointments that are hopefully scheduled on the same floor. This is suited more for retirees or those that might have an issue with a lot of walking. Please note on the registration form if this is something you are interested in.

Lobbying Issue Sheets: All lobbying issue sheets must be submitted by **February 14th**. **Lobbying sheets received after this date will not be included in the packets.**

As you know, an important part of our political action agenda involves the successful lobbying of our state legislators. Active participation by your local union members helps us attain the positive results we need in addressing our issues of concern. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Wence Valentin at (716) 632-1540 or Aaron Eisenberg at (212) 529-2580.

In solidarity,

Daniel Vicente

Director, UAW Region 9

Brandon Mancilla

Director, UAW Region 9A

Raymond Jensen, Jr.

Assistant Director, UAW Region 9

Vail Kohnert-Yount

Assistant Director, UAW Region 9A

Wence Valentin, III

National CAP, UAW Region 9

Aaron Eisenberg

National CAP, UAW Region 9A

law/opeiu494/afl-cio

Enclosures: Registration Form and Tentative Agenda

c Staff & Clerical

UAW REGION 9 DELEGATE REGISTRATION FORM

POLITICAL EDUCATION LOBBYING CONFERENCE

NYS CAP COUNCIL REGIONS 9 & 9A

Desmond Hotel www.desmondhotelsalbany.com
660 Albany Shaker Road Albany, NY 12211 (518) 869-8100

call hotel directly to make your room reservations or click on the following link:

[UAW 2024 Albany Conference](#) control + click)

MARCH 10 – 13, 2024

Delegate Information

Name:

Local Union #:

Active/Retired:

Cell Phone (for team lists):

Home Address:

City/State/Zip:

Email Address:

Political Information

Delegate's Assemblyman:

Delegate's Senator:

Is there a legislator you want to meet with?

Lobbying Conference Information

Are you a past participant?

Would you be willing to be a team captain?

Do you have any special requests for your team?

Bus Information

Are you taking the bus?

If yes, location?

Approximate Bus Schedule:

Local 686 – 7:30 am (524 Walnut Street Lockport)
Region 9 – 8:15 am (35 George Karl Blvd Williamsville)
Rochester – 9:20 am (GMCH parking lot/1000 Lexington Avenue)
Dewitt Wegman's Lunch – 11:00 am (6789 E. Genesee St, Fayetteville)
Depart Wegman's – 12:00 pm
Arrive Desmond Hotel – 2:10 pm

Dietary Restrictions (gluten free, vegetarian, vegan), Comments, Concerns, Issues:

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION & HOTEL: FEBRUARY 14, 2024

Return Registration Form to lwiniarski@uaw.net or fax to 947-217-3414

Or mail to UAW Region 9, 35 George Karl Blvd, Amherst, NY 14221

Questions? Call 716-632-1540

OPEIU494

For UAW Members living in Western New York:

- Bus transportation will be provided from Lockport, Buffalo, Rochester, & Syracuse
 - Note on registration form if you are taking the bus and which location
 - Eliminates the mileage and parking reimbursement to the local unions
 - Anyone who drives will either do so at your own expense or through reimbursement from your local union with prior approval

Meals Provided:

Sunday evening dinner
Monday morning breakfast
Monday afternoon lunch
Tuesday morning breakfast
Wednesday morning breakfast

TENTATIVE CONFERENCE AGENDA

SUNDAY (DAY 1)

3:00 p.m.

5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

NY State CAP Meeting for Executive Board only - Triennial Elections

Registration

Plenary Session-Welcome, Dinner, Orientation,
And Team/Lobbying Assignments

MONDAY (DAY 2)

7:30 a.m.

8:00 -11:30 a.m.

12:00 pm

1:10 p.m.

1:50 p.m.

5:00 p.m.

Breakfast Buffet

Plenary Session - Guest Speaker/
Information updates on UAW issues

Luncheon Buffet

1st bus leaves for Legislative Office Building (LOB) to lobby
and make additional appointments (those with 2 pm apts)

2nd bus leaves for Legislative Office Building (LOB) to lobby

Legislator Meet & Greet - AFL-CIO Office

100 South Swan Street, Albany, NY 12210

Times to be determined for bus pickup back to Desmond Hotel

TUESDAY (DAY 3)

7:30 a.m.

8:00 a.m.

8:40 a.m.

8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.

3:00 p.m.

3:40 p.m.

Breakfast Buffet

1st bus leaves for LOB to lobby legislators

2nd bus leaves for LOB to lobby legislators

Lobby legislators on UAW Issues

1st bus pickup back to Desmond Hotel

2nd bus pickup back to Desmond Hotel

Free Evening

WEDNESDAY (DAY 4)

8:00 - 10:00 a.m.

10:00 a.m.

Breakfast; Reports from lobbying teams

Adjourn

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NY UAW Priorities 2024

S5085B/A4066 (Kennedy/Burgos) Fully Compensate Warranty Services

This bill will fully compensate warranty services for workers who repair cars under manufacturer's warranty. Currently, the workers only make one quarter of what they work on a car not under warranty. This bill rectifies this and allows workers to be paid fully for each hour of work they work. This bill would impact all warranty techs across the state, unionized and nonunionized. It will bring in \$900 million into New York's economy rather than going to the corporations as they currently are.

S541A/A1893 (Hoylman-Sigal/Joyner) Empire Act

The EMPIRE Worker Protection Act would significantly increase the state's capacity to enforce labor standards and critical workers' rights protections by creating a mechanism that allows private individuals to bring whistleblower lawsuits on behalf of the State. It will bring in \$103 million to the State's coffers.

S4402/A1443 (Kennedy/Wallace) Shorten Unemployment for Striking Workers from Two to One Week.

This bill would rectify the waiting period, plus two week wait, that make it three weeks before striking workers can collect unemployment, and make it the two weeks as was initially intended by the 2019 bill that passed. It would also bring New York State even with New Jersey for the duration of wait time.

S4511/A1568C (Ramos/Simon) Student Loan Forgiveness for Legal Services

This bill would allow legal services workers to have student loans forgiven. This would apply to both prosecutorial side, and defense side workers. It would follow the precedent set by the nurses having this provision and would cost an estimated \$4 Million to the state.

S2821A/A4053A (Ramos/Solages) Paid Medical Leave Reform

Strengthen Paid Medical Leave in New York. This bill provides New Yorkers with meaningful medical leave; currently, if workers need to take time off of work to care for their own serious medical needs, they are only entitled to \$170/week of unprotected leave and are not guaranteed their health insurance during a medical crisis. This bill provides a progressive wage replacement model that ensures that lower wage workers are getting meaningful compensation if/when they need to take time off of work. The bill also makes minor changes to paid family leave to add a more inclusive family definition and shorten the waiting period.



S7590/A7897 (Rivera/Paulin) NY Health Act

This Bill will create a single-payer, universal healthcare system for New York State.

OTHER TOPICS ALREADY DEEMED TO BE STATE PRIORITIES FOR 2024

Unemployment Reform

We will be working on reforming the unemployment system in New York. We will be taking up all the causes in the Worker Justice Package about unemployment specifically. While we will support all the bills in this package, we will focus on the shortening the wait time bill as our priority.

Workers Compensation Reform

We will be working on reforming the workers compensation system in New York. Building on the bill Hochul signed into law this year we will be seeking greater allocations to workers who are temporarily unable to work, ensuring they get their full amount they can.

FORTHCOMING BILLS ALREADY DEEMED TO BE STATE PRIORITIES FOR 2024

Union Made in NY Flowchart

This will be a bill that will create a flowchart for procurement in New York State highlighting union made labor, local hiring, made in USA provisions, and more.

Property Tax Freeze for Seniors

This will be a bill to support senior citizens who own property and give them incentive to stay in New York State.