

# **WHAT DO I GET FROM MY UNION DUES?**

(Modified from Capital Area Uniserv-North Directions,  
October 2005)

Membership in a union is not a purchase. Dues are the member's share of the costs of:

1. Protecting your employment rights.
2. Supporting your economic welfare.
3. Promoting and safeguarding better teaching and working conditions.
4. Lobbying for legislative support of your schools.
5. Maintaining a public image and communicating with the membership.
6. Developing and advancing Association policy.

“What do I get from my union dues?” must be balanced against similar questions if they were to be raised in other parallel situations. For example:

Question: What do I get for my life insurance premiums?

Answer: An estate for my relatives when I die.

Question: What do I get for my home insurance premiums?

Answer: Nothing, unless my home burns down or if I suffer some other covered loss.

Question: What do I get for my automobile insurance?

Answer: Nothing, unless I have an accident.

Question: What do I get for my union dues?

Answer: Literally thousands of volunteers and professionals who work on my behalf at all levels of the government to protect my job, to increase my salary and benefits, to protect my retirement system, to make my views known at all levels, to make my job easier to do and more rewarding as an occupational choice. In short - CAREER INSURANCE.