

OPPOSE the Auto Concessions – They Are Aimed at Every Worker

News Flash, February 24: Ford and UAW leadership agree to awful concessions & demand that workers ratify. GM & Chrysler come next.

Wages ARE cut – despite all the lies that were told.

- Two bonuses – a loss of 7% of a year's income – eliminated.
- COLA – which already had been cut nearly in half – eliminated.
- Christmas bonus – eliminated. Overtime pay – cut.
- In eight years, auto workers had only one increase in their basic wage rate. Bonuses, COLA and SUB are a major part of their wages.

Companies tear up their side of the SUB bargain.

- SUB was a pledge. Workers would get lower wages while working; in exchange, the companies promised to put money aside to pay SUB during layoffs, which can be long.
- Instead SUB pay is to be cut up to half; number of weeks it is paid, reduced up to half.
- Laid-off workers can be forced to move ANYWHERE in the country or lose SUB.

Changes in the 8-hour overtime rule open the door to killer schedules.

- Today, there are “experimental” work schedules – for example, working 12 hours a day, 7 days in a row, split into separate workweeks to avoid most of the overtime pay.
- Tomorrow, such schedules can be everywhere – the concessions agreement says so!

Cheating funding for the VEBA will kill off retiree health care.

- The VEBA trust set up in 2007 to pay for retiree health care was under-funded from the beginning. The companies had to put in only 52% of what they owed.
- Since then, UAW leaders let companies defer their payments TWICE.
- Concessions would let the companies pay half of what they owe in company stock.

Lots of hidden changes are buried in the language – for example:

- Skilled Trades to be decimated. People to be penalized for medical conditions.

If Auto Workers go down, all of us are next!

- The companies, the politicians and top union leaders are conspiring – trying to force auto workers to give up without a fight; using the crisis to lower the standard of living of the whole working class; protecting the bosses' profits at our expense.

Oppose the drive for concessions – pass it on, pass it on, pass it on!

- Auto workers are still a force. There are enough people angry who can register real opposition to this filthy set of concessions. Record every NO! Bring everyone out!
- The rest of us know someone in auto. Reinforce the auto workers' desire to refuse concessions. Prepare ourselves to oppose the concessions when they come for us.