

Working people today confront the deepest crisis of the capitalist system in living memory. The Socialist Workers campaign is running against the capitalist class and its twin parties, the Democrats and Republicans. We are the only campaign addressing the crisis in the interests of workers and farmers.

Millions throughout the world are already hard hit by the depression. Unemployment in the United States is now officially 9.4 percent. The real figure is much higher when you include the millions the government does not count, "discouraged" and part-time workers. Despite statements to the contrary by Democratic and Republican politicians, this devastation is just the beginning. We face decades of economic dislocation and imperialist wars.

The underlying problem is a systemic one; the owners of industry, trade, banking,

and agriculture face long term declining profit rates. The employing class is driven by necessity to slash jobs, hours, and wages. Acting on behalf of that class, the government is driving to cut Medicare, Social Security, and other basic entitlements.

In New York City, the government is hiking MTA fares, raising the sales tax, threatening the jobs and benefits of many City workers, and cutting services all working people rely on.

At the same time, Washington is waging wars abroad to protect the interests of the U.S. capitalist minority. Today it has 134,000 U.S. troops in Iraq, is doubling its troops in Afghanistan to at least 68,000, and has spread its intervention to Pakistan.

Our campaign says: in face of this catastrophe, the working class needs to take political power out of the hands of the

ruling capitalist class, to begin reorganizing society based on the needs of the vast majority, not profits for a few.

Cuban working people accomplished this 50 years ago by making a revolution that put an end to capitalist exploitation. The Cuban Revolution today remains an example for workers and farmers in this country and worldwide, which is why U.S. rulers hate and fear Cuba.

The Socialist Workers campaign fights alongside fellow working people against the employer and government assault on jobs, wages, social benefits, and rights. Among the demands in our platform, we call for the following immediate steps:

Guaranteed unemployment compensation, at union scale, for all workers until they find a job.

Increase the federal minimum wage to union scale.

A federally funded public works program to put millions to work building schools, hospitals, roads, and public transportation.

Immediate, unconditional legalization of all undocumented workers.

Lifetime medical care and retirement pensions for all. No cuts in medical benefits for any laid off workers.

All U.S. troops out of Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. Not one penny, not one person for Washington's wars.

I and the other Socialist Workers candidates will continue to use our campaign to join the struggles to defend the interests of all workers and farmers.

For more information on our campaign,
please call us at 212-736-2540 or e-mail us
at newyorkswp@mac.com or visit our campaign
offices at 306 West 37th Street, 10th Floor,
Manhattan.

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Thank you very much.

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