

Action Plan

Educating Others to **VOTE NO!** on the NYS Constitutional Convention Referendum

Things you can do:

- Chapter and Individual Activities
- Work with Coalitions
- Donate to VOTE-COPE
- Check out the UUP Website

Chapter and Individual Activities

- Distribute brochures to UUP members, family and friends, and community groups you are part of.
- Ask your colleagues, family and friends to self address an “I pledge to Vote No!” postcard. UUP headquarters will collect the postcards from chapters and mail them back to individuals in the weeks before the election (order postcards by email at avillafa@uupmail.org).
- Organize door-to-door leafleting in your neighborhoods and brochure drops at supportive businesses, churches and other locations.
- Ask individuals to host “house parties” and invite neighbors and friends to discuss the issue.
- Write a letter to the editor for local newspapers or organization newsletters, and invite family and friends to write one, too.
- Display Vote No! posters.
- Distribute and wear Vote No! buttons (available at your chapter office).
- Spread the word on social media. Follow UUP on Facebook and Twitter; use the hashtag #NYConCon.

On Nov. 7, 2017, New Yorkers will vote on a referendum on whether to hold a constitutional convention to revise and amend the New York State Constitution.

UUP opposes a constitutional convention for two key reasons: 1) A convention could cost between \$50 million and \$100 million, and there are other avenues already in place to change the state Constitution; and 2) Reopening the document could threaten basic rights and protections guaranteed in the state constitution, and would become the vehicle to advance attacks on public education, labor unions and the environment.

UUP needs your help in educating union members and the public about what’s at stake.

Chapter offices can download UUP resources at www.uupinfo.org. Large orders may be requested by emailing UUP Communications Assistant Angell Villafañe at avillafa@uupmail.org (when possible, allow a minimum of two weeks for orders to be shipped).



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- Show the video of community and UUP members explaining why they oppose a constitutional convention.
 - Start planning fall “Get out the Vote” activities, including leafleting and phone banking.

Work with Coalitions

- Attend constitutional convention community meetings and presentations—and speak against the referendum.
- Offer to invite a UUP representative to speak to local organizations (UUP will send an officer/designee). Possible organizations to contact:
 - Central Labor Councils and other labor groups
 - Church/religious groups
 - NYS Alliance for Retired Americans chapters, or other senior citizen/retiree groups
 - The League of Women Voters
 - Campus/student groups
 - Service organizations, e.g., Kiwanis or Lions Club
 - Environmental and conservation groups
 - Education organizations
 - Social welfare advocacy associations
 - Government watchdog groups
- Ask your colleagues, family and friends to bring this issue to the organizations they belong to. Ask them to distribute UUP materials and/or write a letter or article for an organization’s newsletter.

Donate to VOTE-COPE

Those who want a constitutional convention to try and strip away collective bargaining, pensions, and other basic rights will spend billions trying to convince people to vote for the convention. NYSUT will need to spend as much as possible to inform its members and the general public about what’s at stake. The only way to accomplish this is through voluntary donations to VOTE-COPE, the union’s nonpartisan political action fund.

Give to VOTE-COPE!

Check out the UUP website

Go to www.uupinfo.org for updates and information on the constitutional convention.



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