



# Washington Wrap

By Ken Kovack  
SOAR Legislative Director  
Washington, D.C. Office

**By the time your read this, the election will be upon us. The experts expect 100 million voters will exercise their right to vote this November. Hopefully, voters will cast their ballots based on the knowledge of where the candidates stand on the issues. There are major differences in the candidates' platforms that will have a major impact on the quality of life for America's retirees and working families.**

To cast your vote on the lack of knowledge or a whim is unforgivable. This is not the time to get bogged down on a single issue! Too much is at stake. We all must ask ourselves, where does the candidate that wants my vote, stand on the issues that are most important to me and the nation? When you ask yourself that question, keep in mind McCain's statement to the Republican Convention delegates and to the millions of other watching on television. He admitted to all that his party has failed. For any candidate to openly state that his or her party has failed the American people on practically every issue speaks volumes about their core values. It is important to remember that John McCain has been a major player in these failures for years. He openly admits that he has supported the Bush administration over 90 percent of the time. This is a strong indication that the McCain-Palin ticket offers more of the same. More of the same failed policies of the last seven-plus years!

The United Steelworkers and AFL-CIO have been working vigorously to



elect the Obama-Biden team this fall. A victory is within our grasp. Candidates Barack Obama and Joe Biden both have established strong voting records in support of retirees and working families. They are committed to reversing the shrinking of the middle class.

The Obama-Biden campaign has done a very good job in registering hundreds of thousands of new voters and in fundraising for their campaign. Their policy positions are pro-family and pro-worker.

The labor plan is an independent effort that is supplementing and expanding the campaign's outreach to all union families. By the end of the campaign union families will receive over 25 million pieces of mail. Ten million doors will have been knocked on and 20 million union households will have received at least one phone call. This variety of contacts and information will make clear the differences between the presidential and vice presidential candidates. In addition, each union's major publication, including *SOAR in ACTION*, will be added to the mix of information vital to your vote on Election

Day. There is every reason to believe that union families, including union retirees, will be among the very best informed voters in this election.

We—more than 13 million union retirees—can make a difference. With your help we have the power to make a change for our and the nation's good. Our interests and those of the common public will be best served by supporting and voting for the Obama-Biden ticket. But just voting for the top of the ticket is not enough. In order to move our country forward we need to elect a Democratic Congress and a veto-proof Senate majority as well. Make no mistake about it, we cannot afford to fail. We cannot withstand another four years of the failed policies of the last eight years.

**A vote for McCain is a vote for the same!**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
**Obama for President Campaign**  
**Join the USW Activist Corps**  
**Call 1-866-836-5103 today!**