As a provision of our contract, Rutgers AAUP-AFT members can authorize contributions to the AFT Committee on Political Education (COPE), the political action committee for the American Federation of Teachers. Voluntary contributions authorized by individual members of our union will enhance our ability to craft political goals and strategies as well as to make financial contributions to support worthy candidates. COPE funds are legally available for political purposes, whereas union dues are not. Contributions to COPE are not tax deductible. Only US citizens or permanent residents may make contributions to a COPE fund.

When members of Rutgers AAUP-AFT authorize a payroll deduction for AFT COPE, this will allow our local union to participate in this national program run by the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), while we control the use of the funds at the local level. The Rutgers AAUP-AFT Legislative Committee will make recommendations for disbursement of COPE funds and the Rutgers AAUP-AFT Executive Council will make official decisions on issues and candidates to endorse.

If you prefer, donations may be made by personal check. Please make the check payable to AFT/COPE and send it to:
Rutgers AAUP-AFT
11 Stone Street
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1113

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Rutgers AAUP-AFT
Authorization for AFT/COPE Deduction

I hereby authorize and direct Rutgers, The State University to make biweekly deductions from my pay in the amount of:

☐ $5.00 or

☐ $__________, (other amount)

and to remit the amount to the AFT/COPE fund.

I am willing to volunteer for:

☐ Labor Walks (canvassing)

☐ Phone Banks

☐ Meetings and Rallies

☐ Get Out the Vote efforts

Contributions or gifts to the AFT/COPE are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

The payroll deduction suggested by Rutgers AAUP-AFT is not sponsored or endorsed in any way by Rutgers, The State University or by anyone on its behalf, or by the State of New Jersey. Rutgers makes no promises or representations of any kind whatsoever concerning this payroll deduction.

This authorization is signed freely and voluntarily and not out of any fear of reprisal, and I will not be favored nor disadvantaged because I exercise this right. I understand this money will be used to make political contributions by AFT/COPE. AFT/COPE may engage in joint fundraising efforts with the AFL-CIO.

This voluntary authorization may be revoked at any time by notifying the Rutgers AAUP-AFT in writing of the desire to do so.

Return to Rutgers AAUP-AFT via campus or regular mail to: 11 Stone Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1113 or FAX to 732-964-1032. Questions? Call 732-964-1000