

TEACHING ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION

AFT Local #3220



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Teaching Assistants' Association/AFT#3220 Endorses Senator Barack Obama in Wisconsin Presidential Primary

MADISON ---

The members of the Teaching Assistants' Association (TAA - AFT Local #3220), which is the second largest local in AFT-Wisconsin and represents over 2700 teaching and project assistants at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, in a non-partisan caucus declared their overwhelming support for and their endorsement of the candidacy of Senator Barack Obama for the Wisconsin Presidential Primary by an over two-thirds supermajority.

This endorsement is counter to the endorsement of Senator Clinton's candidacy by the American Federation of Teachers (AFT). TAA members chose Senator Obama as the candidate they preferred to address the challenges and issues that face the county and the world.

TAA Co-President, Mark Supanich, identified Senator Obama's principled stands on issues ranging from the war in Iraq to fair trade as indicative of his strong leadership quality. Members also cited his ability to articulate nuanced positions on policy such as immigration and health care as a vital quality for the future leader of the United States America. Furthermore, his remarkable ability to bring the populous together with resonating message of hope inspires members of the TAA to work towards a better future for our nation.

"We have been quiet Americans;" said TAA member Ryan Lipscomb, "Senator Obama compels us to dream. He reminds us of the power of words and the acute importance of the ideals which frame the American experiment. He challenges us to hope." TAA members enthusiastically and overwhelmingly endorsed the candidacy of Senator Obama for the Presidency and declared, "We are no longer quiet. We are an active, engaged, and inspired America."

We embrace and take ownership of the obstacles which face this nation. We recognize the challenges that are presented to us all. We proudly stand with Senator Obama and declare: "There is nothing false about our hope."

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