

January 8, 2020

Dear Brother Gamble and Members of the International Executive Board:

We, the undersigned Presidents whose Locals represent approximately 49,000 workers on the west coast of the former Region 5, write to request the establishment of a new UAW West Coast Region.

We were once part of a separate UAW Region and were merged into what became the 17-state Region 5. This largest geographic region in the UAW proved to be a space in which the corruption plaguing our Union went unchecked, because it was too big for members to be fully involved in decision making and to hold elected leaders accountable.

We applaud your stated intention of fighting corruption in the Union and join you in supporting reforms. Corruption has indeed been a problem in the leadership of the International Union, and particularly in Region 5, which has placed us all in a difficult position. In our view, a smaller region that maps on to an already thriving and efficient Western States subregion helps support the reforms we are all seeking by increasing participation in the Union's programs and improving accountability.

Toward this end, we ask that you consider our proposal to create a West Coast Region in which we can continue the proud UAW traditions of democratic unionism and political activism that have improved our lives and society.

We would appreciate the opportunity to speak with you in person about this proposal at your earliest convenience.

In Solidarity,

Marty Garcia, Local 76

Frances Maldonado, Local 179

Jesse Ramirez, Local 230

Jeff Morrison, Local 492

Gene Hurd, Local 509

Joe Padilla, Local 887

Sarah Vig, Local 2103

Lance Pringle, Local 2162

Joyce Thomas-Villaronga, Local 2350

Paola Miranda, Local 2501

Kavitha Iyengar, Local 2865  
David Parsons, Local 4121  
Sandip Roy, Local 4123  
Anke Schennink, Local 5810  
Lou Varga, Local 6645

cc: Ray Curry, Secretary Treasurer  
Terry Dittes, Vice President  
Cindy Estrada, Vice President  
Frank Stuglin, Director Region 1  
Chuck Browning, Director Region 1A  
Gerald Kariem, Director Region 1D  
Rich Rankin, Director Region 2B  
Ron McInroy, Director Region 4  
Mitchell Smith, Director Region 8  
Jeff Binz, Director Region 9  
Beverley Brakeman, Director Region 9A  
Jim Soldate, Assistant Director Region 5  
James Banks, Servicing Rep Region 5 Western States  
Mike Miller, Servicing Rep Region 5 Western States  
George Nano, Servicing Rep Region 5 Western States  
Victor Quiroz, CAP Rep Region 5 Western States  
Alex Santana, Servicing Rep Region 5 Western States