

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

For Immediate Release

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## WORKING PEOPLE JOIN FORCES FOR ANDY THORBURN'S CONGRESSIONAL BID

United Steelworkers Los Angeles/Orange Counties Local 675 Sides

## With Workers' Rights Leader Andy Thorburn in Race for California's 39th Congressional District

**ORANGE COUNTY, CA --** Illustrating his increasing support from organizations that represent working families, today former classroom teacher, workers' rights leader and Democratic businessman Andy Thorburn secured a critical endorsement from the United Steelworkers Los Angeles/Orange Counties Local 675.

In announcing their endorsement, United Steelworkers Los Angeles/Orange Counties Local 675 Secretary-Treasurer Dave Campbell released the following statement:

"The United Steelworkers of Los Angeles/Orange Counties are proud to endorse a proven workers' rights leader like Andy Thorburn for Congress. After helping to build a movement and lead a strike for classroom teachers, Andy was able to help raise wages and ensure better treatment for workers. We are confident he will fight for a pro-worker, pro-middle class and a pro-fair economy agenda in Washington."

Since the inception of his campaign, Thorburn has released a slew of digital video ads and has hired top-notch strategists to help lead his campaign.

In launching his campaign, Thorburn released a new digital video ad, titled "<u>Cell Doors</u>," that highlights his background as a classroom teacher and workers' rights advocate, including his time in jail for helping to lead a movement and a strike that ultimately led to better wages and fair treatment for workers.



To <u>watch "Cell Doors" click here</u> or on the screen shot below:

Thorburn's ad, "Overhaul," was recently spotlighted by the Washington Post.

To watch "<u>Overhaul</u>," click on the screen shot below.

To view, "<u>Inclusive Society</u>," click on the screen shot below:

## To view Thorburn's video, <u>"In the Ground</u>," click on the screen shot below:

Thorburn, who was recently endorsed by the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades District Council 36, has enlisted the following team of campaign operatives:

- Jacobson & Zilber Strategies, Media Strategists and Chief Consultants
- Mellman Group, Opinion Research and Pollsters
- Rapid Returns Digital, Online Fundraising Strategists
- Nancy Leeds, Campaign Manager
- Brendan Wiles, Deputy Campaign Manager
- Jake Wagman, Research Consultant
- Olson Hagel and Fishburn LLP, Compliance and Legal Operations

Andy Thorburn is a Democrat, a businessman, a nonprofit founder, a former classroom teacher and an advocate for working people. He has worked as an educator, union organizer, and entrepreneur, and at each phase in his life, he has prioritized the principle that any organization - a country or a company gets the best results if it treats its people fairly, with dignity, and holds itself to a standard of excellence.

Thorburn was born in Brooklyn, New York, and raised in New Jersey along with his two brothers.

After college, Thorburn started his career in public service as a high school teacher in Newark, New Jersey. His leadership abilities were recognized almost immediately, and he was elected to a senior position in the local chapter of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT). Also while teaching, Thorburnattended graduate school at Jersey City University.

Everything changed in Thorburn's life in 1970, when he and other classroom teachers led a strike for better wages, better benefits, and better working conditions. Andy was jailed for the strike, along with numerous other teachers, but won the battle for livable wages, fair treatment for workers, and smaller classroom sizes. After leaving the classroom, Thorburn founded a small business that specialized in selling insurance to working families, particularly classroom teachers. This launched a truly remarkable career in business and philanthropy that has led to him creating hundreds of jobs, and providing retirement security to countless Americans at home and abroad. Today Thorburn leads the international company Global Benefits Group and he's also the founder of the Global Benefits Group Foundation - a nonprofit that provides innovative new methods of financing, like microloans, to those who need them the most.

Thorburn has been married to his wife Karen, for 36 years, and they have two children together, both of which they adopted as infants. Andy and Karen live in Orange County, where they have lived for the past 18 years.

For more information please visit: <u>www.ThorburnForCongress.com</u>.

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Paid for by Andy Thorburn for Congress.

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