

# Carhaulers Say No to Concessions

Carhaulers have rejected the concessionary tentative agreement by a 60-to-40 margin—and shown that we can have power in our union and in our industry.

**As negotiators return to the table, what will it take to beat concessions once and for all?**

The decisive rejection of the carhaul agreement marks the first time since the 1980s (when Jackie Presser was Teamster president) that a national trucking contract was rejected. No wonder: this deal was so bad, even Presser would have been embarrassed by it.

The main reason the contract was defeated was the overwhelming concessions. Zuckerman served up “operational” concessions that would give away decades of unionism.

Then he tagged on extra ones that have nothing to do with operations: allowing companies to use GPS devices to fire Teamsters; allowing carriers to open up nonunion terminals in the west. Zuckerman gave employers a lower new-hire wage even though no one is hiring. This was just a bonus giveback.

But the contract was rejected for one other reason: carhaulers started to get organized into a national network that worked together to protect our contract.

By rejecting the contract, carhaulers stopped the concessions trend. To reverse it, we need to get even more organized.

The real challenge will come when the union and companies return to the bargaining table.

Many Teamsters have said they would accept a two-year contract extension, with adequate funding to fully protect pension and H&W, and a cost of living adjustment.

But to this point, company and union negotiators have remained hell-bent on concessions that would gut our contract.



If we want to keep concessions out of the next tentative deal, we can't wait to see what the negotiators come up with next before we take action.

Starting now, we have to show the employers and our union that carhaulers nationwide are organized and prepared to vote down concessions again.

That's what the TDU Carhaul Committee is all about. We're building a national network so carhaulers can quickly share information coast to coast—and take united action to defend our contract.

We need you to be a part of it. Here's how you can help:

► **Sign up for email updates.** Register for updates at [www.tdu.org](http://www.tdu.org). Download a Carhaul Update sign-in sheet and register Teamsters at your terminal to receive updates.

► **Help distribute contract bulletins.** Call the TDU Carhaul Committee at (313) 842-2600 to sign up to get bulletins and let us know which terminals you can distribute bulletins to.

► **Attend contract meetings and speak your mind.** Carhaul Director Fred Zuckerman has announced he will meet with Teamster carhaulers to hear our concerns. We need to turn out in force at these meetings with a clear message that we are prepared to Vote No if the bargaining committee returns with concessions.

Carhaulers are not powerless—and we're proving it. Even in a recession, the carriers still need us to haul the cars. We have the power to defeat concessions and save our contract if we work together to make it happen.