

MAY 23
2018

UNION UPDATE

CHRISTINA CALUGCUGAN
CREATING A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR
GENERATIONS TO COME

In May we continue to celebrate the contributions of Asian Pacific Americans to our history and our culture ... our member-leader Christina Calugcugan is working at her department and in her community to create a bright future for the next generations.

She first stepped into her leadership when she found her workplace (EDD, Los Angeles) had no stewards representing about 100 of her coworkers. Shortly thereafter, she found herself attending SEIU's Ignite! conference in St. Louis. On her second day, she took it upon herself to organize fellow attendees to attend a protest in nearby Ferguson. She filled two buses – even though the trip wasn't free!

Inspired, she returned to Los Angeles and in short order, grew the membership at her EDD office from a scant 50% all the way to 86%. Building on that success, she turned to

organizing other area EDD offices and eventually many Los Angeles worksites. She was heavily involved in building support for the 2016 contract campaign.



Her key to engaging members and creating a stronger union is simple: "The why" she says, "you have to know what you want and why you want it." And then action is easier: "You can't have a say if you don't do anything."

Christina comes from a labor background. "My parents were both union and both retired at 58 with a pension," she says. But, the labor landscape is changing, and she's troubled by the constant attacks being directed at unions.

"I'm working to make our union –and the labor movement—stronger every day. I want more members to be engaged, to understand our union and not be transactional. We're not a service, we are fighting together for a common goal."



#iChooseMyUnion

"I Choose to be a member of a union that works to better all workers, to create sustainable communities and promote a living wage."

~ Christina Calugcugan

EDD, Los Angeles, Unit 1, Job Steward, DLC 721



IT RECLASS

DESIGNING *the* FUTURE of IT

MEMBERS TAKE ACTION; CALL GOVERNOR TO DEMAND THAT THE STATE FIX "IT."

After the state wasn't prepared to discuss IT salaries or meet with our IT Reclass Bargaining Team, our IT members took action across California to demand that the state finish its work and make IT salaries right.

The State of California continues to make no investment in its own IT workforce compensation or training. Instead, they choose to outsource state jobs, paying contractors 2 times more than state employees, wasting 2.5 billion in taxpayer dollars every year.

Hundreds of members called Governor Brown, demanding he approve the budget to fix the salaries of the 8,6000 IT professionals. Others stood up and showed their power in the workplace, displaying their "Make IT Right" signs and posting pictures to social media.

STAY UP-TO-DATE
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"Our members took action and made their union voices heard. Now, we need to keep up the fight until the state takes real action and recognizes the value of its IT workforce."

– Margarita Maldonado, Vice President for Bargaining.



"I took action to let the state know that we are serious. They need to show they value 'IT', because we make the lives of all Californians better and they need to Make 'IT' Right!"

– Robert Gilbert
Information Technology Specialist I , DOI, Los Angeles

Resource Center

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REMEMBER:

SHARE YOUR GEOPAY STORY TODAY!

Transportation costs continue to increase year-after-year in California, taking hard-earned money out of your paycheck to keep up with vehicle maintenance, rising tolls, soaring gas prices, parking and transportation fees.

Share your story and be a part of the solution as we continue our discussions with CalHR on May 25 to address the wide variety of economic stress felt by our members who deal with the high cost of living in California.

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