

MAY 23  
2012

# UNION UPDATE

LOCAL 1000  
  
Stronger Together

May budget revise

# Budget reality forces tough decisions



By Yvonne R. Walker  
President, Local 1000

Once again, California is faced with tough times. Because tax revenues are not as high as expected, the state is experiencing a \$16 billion budget shortfall.

**The May budget revise contains many painful cuts, not only to state workers, but to Californians in general.**

Gov. Brown has reached out and asked Local 1000 and other unions for help in developing ideas and ways to address this problem. Gov. Brown is working to achieve a specific dollar amount in savings as it relates to state employees.

As a result, Local 1000 presented a series of possible solutions to the governor. These included eliminating retired annuitants from the state payroll, reducing outsourcing by cutting private vendor contracts, and, if necessary, implementing a four-day, 40-hour work week.

We have always said that state employees are reasonable people. We understand that these are tough economic times and that, given the opportunity, we think we can come up with solutions. It is important to note that we now have this opportunity to have a seat at the table to offer solutions. If we are part of the solution, we will keep as many of our members working as possible during these tough economic times.

Anything that gets done must be done at the negotiating table. Our elected bargaining teams are committed to do the best job they can in offering real solutions, while at the same time minimizing the impact to state employees.

Even though our first instinct is to say, "No," it is important that we stay engaged and continue to identify reasonable solutions as part of a long-term effort to reduce pressure on state employees whenever California is in budget trouble. Please continue to share your cost-savings ideas by talking to your steward, your Local 1000 organizer, or by going to [seiu1000.seiu.org/page/s/budget\\_solutions](http://seiu1000.seiu.org/page/s/budget_solutions)

## What is your solution to the budget crisis?

As we continue to work with Gov. Brown to find responsible solutions to the budget crisis, it's important to offer suggestions on how the state can operate with greater cost effectiveness.

## What are your ideas?

[seiu1000.seiu.org/page/s/budget\\_solutions](http://seiu1000.seiu.org/page/s/budget_solutions)



# June 5 primary election draws near

## This California primary matters to state workers

The political action of Local 1000 members in June is important – an unusually high percentage of legislative seats are open due to redistricting, term limits, as well as the new open primary system.

Political analysts say 42 of 80 assembly seats may have a new legislator after November. We now have a chance to elect a two-thirds majority of labor-friendly lawmakers – a threshold necessary for the passage of spending bills, including our contract.

### New open primary allows voters to choose candidates from any party

In 2010, California voters passed Proposition 14 which created an open primary system for all state and congressional elective offices. That means in the June 5 primary election, all the candidates for each office are pooled together and are put on the same ballot.

Voters can choose any candidate, regardless of their party affiliation or your own political party preference. The top two vote getters for each office will then be on the ballot in the November general election. That means in some districts it might be two Democrats or two Republicans running against each other in November.

### Vote by mail

Voting from the convenience and safety of your own home has grown more and more popular. If you would like to vote by mail, you must request your ballot by May 29. For further information go to: [seiu1000.org/2012/04/voting-by-mail-is-quick-and-easy.php](http://seiu1000.org/2012/04/voting-by-mail-is-quick-and-easy.php)

### Political volunteers make all the difference

Consistently, Local 1000 has turned out year after year to do our part, and we remain strong through election day for those who support the work that we do for all Californians.

In just the past two weeks, more than 220 phone bankers and precinct walkers have reached more than 25,000 households. The message of the importance of this election is spreading because of this work, and the need for even more volunteers is imperative.

**For more information** on the election, SEIU endorsed candidates, and how to become involved visit Local 1000's 2012 Election webpage at [seiu1000.me/JkyKVJ](http://seiu1000.me/JkyKVJ)

### Resource Center

Monday-Friday  
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
866.471.SEIU (7348)

### Website

[seiu1000.org](http://seiu1000.org)

### Connect with Local 1000

Facebook  
[facebook.com/seiu1000](http://facebook.com/seiu1000)

YouTube  
[youtube.com/seiu1000](http://youtube.com/seiu1000)

Twitter  
[twitter.com/seiu1000](http://twitter.com/seiu1000)



# PDD and PLP Days – Use them or lose them

**➔ JUNE 30 DEADLINE:** Time is running out to use the PDD days we earned during this fiscal year

### Professional Development Days

All employees accumulate two Professional Development Days during each fiscal year (July 1 – June 30), and those days must be used during that same fiscal year. PPD days are to be used at the employee's discretion, and management may not request any documentation.

### Personal Leave Program Days

Local 1000-represented employees earned eight hours of Personal Leave Program (PLP) credit each month during Nov. 1, 2010 - Oct. 31, 2011. The accrued days must be used by June 30, 2013 and at the employee's discretion. There is specific language governing PLP for Unit 3 employees.



For more information, visit Local 1000's website at [seiu1000.me/JGjnpf](http://seiu1000.me/JGjnpf) and visit Channel 1000's Focus on the Facts at [seiu1000.me/J9cdMY](http://seiu1000.me/J9cdMY)