

OCT 1
2014

UNION UPDATE

LOCAL 1000

SEIU
Stronger Together

On Nov. 4, let's make politics matter for us

Grassroots action by members will make the difference

This week, Local 1000 members will step up to put political power back in the hands of our communities by working to elect leaders who understand the lives of state employees and working families.

Election Day is Nov. 4 – a little more than a month away – and the stakes are high as Californians elect all eight constitutional officers, including the governor and controller, along with the lawmakers who represent our interests at the state Capitol.

"I know it may seem like politics only works for an elite few these days," said Local 1000 president Yvonne R. Walker. "But with Propositions 30 and 32, and electing Jerry Brown over Meg Whitman—we've seen before that through grassroots organizing and the power of our votes, we can put real power in the hands of working people."

Neighbor-to-neighbor conversations

Local 1000 political volunteers are organizing at the grassroots level and having conversations about what's at stake in this election. They're talking with friends, family and neighbors in support of candidates who will make our economy work for everyone, not just the wealthiest few.

"It's up to each of us to step up and make politics matter for our families and our communities," said Walker.



"We've seen before that through grassroots organizing and the power of our votes, we can put real power in the hands of working people."

—Yvonne R. Walker, President, Local 1000



Health care open enrollment deadline Oct. 10

The deadline for eligible Local 1000-represented employees to decide on their health care coverage options is Oct. 10. Additions or changes made to your coverage will become effective Jan. 1, 2015.

During the open enrollment period, you may enroll, change or add eligible family members to your health plan. As a state employee, you can make changes to your health coverage by contacting your health benefits officer or personnel office for the required documentation.

New dependent vesting, 80/20 premium benefit preserved

State worker dependents become eligible for fully paid health care benefits twice as fast as before—in just 12 months instead of 24—under the terms of

the new contract negotiated and ratified by members in 2013. Now, during the first 12 months of employment, the state contributes 75 percent of employer contribution for dependent coverage and 100 percent after the first year.

Our contract negotiations also preserved our 80/20 health care premium benefit—which was identified during bargaining surveys as the No. 2 concern of members, after protecting our retirement security.

Remember—Friday, Oct. 10 is the last day for employees to sign and submit open enrollment forms to their personnel office.

More information about your health care options is available from the health benefits officer or personnel office at your workplace.

You can learn more online at calpers.ca.gov or by calling the Local 1000 Member Resource Center at **866.471.SEIU** (7348), or contact your worksite steward.

Resource Center

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

Website

seiu1000.org

Connect with Local 1000

Facebook
facebook.com/seiu1000

YouTube
youtube.com/seiu1000

Twitter
twitter.com/seiu1000



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Your right to participate in politics

State employees have the same rights to freedom of speech and expression guaranteed to all citizens of the United States under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. These rights include participation in political speech and activities on behalf of candidates generally under the following guidelines:

You may:

- Choose to exercise freedom of speech on your own time on or off the worksite.
- Participate in voter registration activities on your own time.
- Engage in political fundraising activities on your own time.
- Display bumper stickers and license plate frames on your personal vehicle bearing a political message and park in state parking lots.

Your Union Contract Protects All of Us

Local 1000's contract contains a number of articles that govern your rights as a state employee and your activities in the workplace. If you have questions about your contract or feel that your rights have been violated, contact your Local 1000 steward or call the Member Resource Center at **866.471.SEIU** (7348).

More information, including a copy of your contract, is available online at seiu1000.org

