



PRESIDENT WALKER'S VIDEO MESSAGE – April 22, 2020

Hey, Local 1000. Happy Wednesday.

I want to start out by following up on an issue I brought up about a couple of weeks ago. It's about the Flex Elect Childcare account, and I was asked, "How do we stop that; I got a lot of money going into it." Well, I got the response from CalHR, and they said that they are going to be sending direction out to the departments, guidance out to the departments, on how you can stop that Flex Elect account right now and not wait for open enrollment. I would give your departments about a week because you know that typically is about the time it takes for that to translate. But give them a week and then put in, if you need to, put to have your childcare Flex Elect account canceled.

Also, I'd like to say this is the 50th anniversary of Earth Day.

Now, as we are in this crisis, going through this pandemic, you guys know me. I like looking on the bright side. That's just how I'm made. And so, thinking about on this 50th anniversary, what could the bright side possibly be?

The bright side of this pandemic is, because of all the stay-at-home orders, the skies are clearing up. We're seeing animals where we haven't seen them in years. Wildlife is really owning Yosemite again. In Venice, the waters are clear. They've got dolphins. They've got jellyfish. Our planet is being reborn.

Now we know it's not going to stay exactly like this once all the orders are lifted worldwide, but we also know that today, on the 50th anniversary of Earth Day, we can each make an individual commitment that we're going to do whatever we can to make sure that we don't return to what it was pre-pandemic, so that not only our grandchildren, but our grandchildren's grandchildren can enjoy the sights and wonders that we have.

Have a good day, Local 1000, and I'll talk to you on Friday.