Keep the pressure on for a contract we can all be proud of!

As our bargaining team prepares to return to the bargaining table on Oct. 10, we’re turning up the heat and keeping the pressure on by stepping up our actions.

Up and down the state we are fighting for a contract we can all be proud of; one that values our work and the services we provide for our communities and for all Californians.

“We’re taking action across the state and moving forward together for our union, our contract and our future.”
— Yvonne R. Walker, President

Last week we purpled up and held informational pickets throughout California.

- We marched in Los Angeles, Ontario and San Diego.
- We delivered our message in Pelican Bay, in the central coast and at the Public Utilities Commission in San Francisco.
- In Sacramento, we locked arms in solidarity and raised our voices for a contract we can all be proud of.

All over the state we said loudly and clearly that California is the sixth largest economy in the world, and in our California people who work hard for a living should be able to provide for their families.

The state’s offer of only 2.96 percent does not value our work, our families or the services we provide.

Keep up the pressure, support our bargaining team and continue to take action until we win!

“My family of five lost our house due to the financial hardships caused by furloughs. We can’t let that happen again.”
— Christina Calugcugan, EDD, Los Angeles
In a landmark victory for working families, Governor Jerry Brown signed the Secure Choice plan into law last Thursday, making retirement savings possible for millions of Californians for the first time in their lives.

Secure Choice represents the biggest expansion of retirement opportunity in generations and was made possible by a broad coalition of partners that includes community groups, private and public sector workers and labor unions up and down the state, including members of Local 1000, who were at the forefront of moving this legislation forward.

“Our members helped bring Secure Choice from concept to reality, following through on our commitment to ensure every Californian has access to a dignified retirement. Thousands of our members shared their stories, sent letters or testified at public hearings across the state as the new plan was shaped,” said Yvonne R. Walker, Local 1000 President.

Secure Choice is a voluntary retirement savings plan for millions of private sector, home-based and self-employed workers who currently don’t have access to a pension plan. Savings are made through voluntary payroll deductions, and the accounts follow the workers throughout their working years.

“Local 1000 members believe a safe and secure retirement should be available to everyone who works hard throughout their lives,” said Yvonne R. Walker, President of SEIU Local 1000 and Chair of the SEIU Retirement Security Committee. “The Secure Choice plan is a turning point in the history of our state – and our 95,000 members are proud to have fought for a plan that closes the income gap for all seniors.”

The California Secure Choice Retirement Savings Investment Board will meet in October to begin discussing the key steps to setting up the plan. First steps will include partnering with public entities and firms to establish the capacity to enroll and track participants at the scale required in the next few years. The plan may begin accepting contributions in the next two years.