Thousands of us up and down the state are casting our Strike Authorization Votes as we prepare to return to the table next week.

“We’ve been bargaining in good faith for months, and we will continue to bargain in good faith,” said Margarita Maldonado, Local 1000 Vice President for Bargaining. “But both sides need to bargain in good faith. The state is stubbornly holding on to a single position, which is only making the gender pay gap worse.”

According to an Oct. 28 Sacramento Bee article, female state workers are paid only 79.5 cents on the dollar compared to men. Meanwhile, the state has not moved from its offer of only 2.96% per year, with a 3.5% employee contribution to retiree health care, while making more lucrative deals with male-dominated bargaining units.

The Strike Authorization Vote will allow us to be prepared for all options to hold the state accountable throughout the bargaining process.

“This is an important vote and your vote matters,” said Maldonado. “We’re standing strong together for a contract we can all be proud of. This is our union. This is our contract. This is our future. Make your voice heard and vote.”

Polling Locations, Dates and Times available at seiu1000.org/vote
We're Voting YES!

“Without state workers, vital services would stop. The state needs to value the work we do.”

“We stand together. The line has been drawn in the sand. I eagerly urge a ‘YES’ vote.”

“The state devalues its employees…and believes the work we do and the services we provide to the people of California are not important.”

“I want a fair contract that we can all be proud of as state employees in California.”

“I’m voting ‘YES’ because it’s more than about 2.96%. It’s about respecting the work that we do for the families of California.”

“It’s time for the state to treat us with respect! We need to turn up the volume and make it hard for them to ignore us!”

**Strike Authorization Vote**

**FAQ for Members**

**Can I get disciplined for voting to authorize a strike?**

Your participation in this vote is legal, and you cannot be disciplined for participating in a strike authorization vote on your own time. You need to be on your official break or official lunch (or not clocked in) to go off-site and participate in the vote. We will not be voting on state property.

**Does this mean our Union is going on strike?**

No. We still believe the state can do better, and we will continue to negotiate in good faith. This is a vote to authorize our bargaining team to be prepared with all available options. Our goal is to win a contract we can all be proud of.

**How do I find my polling location?**

Locations, dates and times are available online at seiu1000.org or by calling the Member Resource Center at 866.471.SEIU (7348). Remember, voting ends Nov. 11.

**Where can I get more information?**

Stay informed! Talk with your Worksite Action Team leader or log on to seiu1000.org/vote