

NOV 16
2016

UNION UPDATE

OUR FIGHT CONTINUES FOR A CONTRACT WE CAN ALL BE PROUD OF

We held another bargaining session with the state this week, as we continue to press the state for a livable wage and a contract we can all be proud of.

Our efforts began seven months ago, on April 13, and the state has yet to offer a pay increase that respects our work and values the services we provide to all Californians. It's been three months since the state's last offer – just 2.96% per year, with a 3.5% employee contribution to our retiree health care.

“We still believe the state can do better,” said President Yvonne R. Walker. “Our intention is to continue to negotiate in good faith on all remaining terms. But both sides have to act in good faith. When the state's conduct doesn't meet this standard—on livable wages and benefits—we must prepare for all options.”

Those options included a recently-concluded strike authorization vote of our union membership. That vote was authorized by a unanimous vote of the Local 1000 Board of Directors in July, after the state presented their 2.96% offer and showed no interest in moving towards a livable wage.

The state's lack of movement flies in the face of a number of startling facts that make the case for a better pay increase:

- California is the sixth largest economy in the world (according to the International Monetary Fund) and has a projected \$11.5 billion budget reserve this year (according to the California Legislative Analyst Office 2016 – 2017 budget projection).
- A staggering 39% of our members cannot afford a two-bedroom apartment in the county they live in.
- In most parts of the state, our members cannot afford childcare.
- Even more alarming: a significant gender pay inequity faced by our members. Our union is predominately female (66% women), yet we are paid 19% less than the average for all rank-and-file state employees.
- The state has made deals with male-dominated bargaining units that include wages 43% higher than our average pay.

Thousands of our members have told us in town halls and in surveys: This is not enough to provide for our families, to afford our rent, to pay for childcare or even to buy fresh groceries for our children.

In hundreds of worksites up and down the state, members have and will continue to purple up and stand up in solidarity with our bargaining team.



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–Yvonne R. Walker, President

**For Strike Authorization Vote results, go to seiu1000.org
Be part of the fight to win a contract we can all be proud of – contact your Worksite Action Team leader.**

LAPS candidates help pass Prop. 55 for funding education



Member volunteers stepped up to knock on doors and move voters to the polls in support of Proposition 55 last Tuesday. They are the most recent class of candidates participating in our union's Leadership Apprentice Program for Stewards (LAPS).

Our Union Stewards are at the core of our collective power. They are the workplace advocates for our union, educating and advocating for our members. Stewards are the crucial connection between the workplace and our union, and they harness the power of our members.

"LAPS fosters leaders in the workplace who advance the core mission of our union," said Tamekia N. Robinson, Vice President for Organizing/Representation. "And making politics matter is of key importance to building power for working families."

The LAPS candidates walked precincts in key districts on Election Day to get out the vote for Proposition 55 – a critical ballot measure for the economic health of our state.

Proposition 55 temporarily extends current income tax rates on the wealthiest Californians for 12 more years and will generate \$8 billion per year on average for K-12 education, colleges and health care.

Resource Center

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

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seiu1000.org

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"I knocked on doors to make a difference for our families and our communities. I believe in the value of a strong state budget because it helps working families across the state."

**—Angelina Vargas, LAPS candidate
Office Tech, CDPH, BU 04**