Vote YES on Our Tentative Agreement

A message from President Walker

Starting Jan. 4, we will cast our votes on the tentative agreement we signed on Dec. 3. Along with my fellow officers, and our bargaining team, we recommend a YES vote.

Together, we have come a long way on our journey to a contract we can all be proud of.

We began our first steps with electing our bargaining team and shaping our priorities at town hall meetings. We moved forward with negotiations, statewide worksite actions and a powerful rally at the State Capitol where thousands of us raised our voices in unison for a contract that respects us and values the work we do.

When the state responded with unlawful conduct and bad faith bargaining, we didn’t waver. We prepared to go on STRIKE to hold the state accountable. Nothing would stand in our way.

We said from the beginning: This is about more than just lines on a spreadsheet. This is about our lives. This is about our families.

Actions by members who stood up made all the difference in our victory. Our contract was won by them and thousands more who attended town halls, took action in their worksites and were ready to strike. This is a shining moment in our ongoing movement for economic, social and environmental justice.

What we accomplished is more than a contract we can all be proud of. Through our contract fight we came out a stronger and more powerful union.

We took this journey together, we fought this battle together and we won this contract together.

In solidarity,

Yvonne R. Walker
President, Local 1000

“‘We took this journey together, we fought this battle together and we won this contract together.’”

—Yvonne R. Walker, President

Cast your ratification vote today!

Here’s How:

In person: Cast your vote Jan. 4-17 at hundreds of locations across the state. Check seiu1000.org/ratify for the location nearest you. You must be a member to vote.

By mail: Call the Member Resource Center at 866.471.SEIU(7348) to request a ballot. The last day to request a mail ballot is Jan. 6. Ballots must be received by January 17, 2017 to be counted. You must be a member to vote.
Learn more about our tentative agreement

After eight months of negotiations, two rounds of town hall meetings, escalating worksite actions and the threat of a strike to hold the state accountable to its bargaining obligations, we successfully reached a tentative agreement with the state in early December.

Our tentative agreement is a massive document, more than 1,400 pages. Here are some of the highlights, arranged by the themes identified as priorities by our members:

**Compensation:** A $2,500 signing bonus, across-the-board pay raises and more than 50 special salary adjustments to classifications. In all, we made changes or added new language regarding compensation in 45 different contract articles.

**Professional development:** We improved or added 14 different contract articles, offering greater opportunities to develop our professional knowledge and skills. In virtually every bargaining unit, we expanded access to more education and training to increase our upward mobility and career advancement.

**Working conditions:** In 38 different areas, we made contract improvements to ensure we have the proper equipment to do our jobs in sustainably safe and comfortable workplaces.

**Health & safety and leaves:** We improved 14 different contract articles, increasing our ability to schedule our work and leaves in a reasonable and respectful manner. In 8 different areas, we improved language that makes our jobs healthier and safer.

Read more about the contract we accomplished together. At seiu1000.org, you can read the highlights of our hard-earned wins, the 2016 Ratification Summary booklet or the entire 1,402 page tentative agreement.

What members are saying:

“After 2.5 years of blood, sweat, tears and hard work, this is absolutely a contract that I can be proud of! I’m really proud that I was able to help my colleagues stay in their jobs so they can actually have families and continue to fight climate change.”

— Jamie Ormond, CPUC

“This contract is going to touch everyone. For my family and me, it means an increase in income. I will be able to pay off some bills. I have two kids in college. It’s really going to help pay for that. It means breathing room.”

— Dorrie Steadman, CDCR

“The contract will allow me the opportunity to advance at work with the 20/20 program. It will allow me to continue my education so I can promote at work to earn more money. All of the members benefit from this contract.”

— Regina Johnson, BOE

“This contract means I have food at the end of the month, and I can buy healthier food. It restores my dignity in my profession and makes me proud of what I do every day. It means not having to say ‘No’ to my family for the basic necessities such as shoes and winter clothes.”

— Antonio “Tone” Valencia, DGS