TENTATIVE AGREEMENT MOVES TO ASSEMBLY

In a big step forward, our Tentative Agreement (Senate Bill 28) cleared the Senate on Feb. 17 with a 26-7 vote.

Our TA cleared two previous hurdles earlier in February by being approved by two Senate committees.

The bill now moves to the Assembly. SB 28 will first be heard in the Assembly Budget committee on March 2 upon adjournment of the Assembly floor hearing that day. The bill will be voted on by the Assembly floor at a future date, then on to the governor’s desk for his signature.

Our tentative agreement is a direct result of our unity and member leadership. We’re stronger together.

—Margarita Maldonado
Vice President for Bargaining

STRONGER TOGETHER: Enforcing our contract, fighting for justice

When a Local 1000 member was unjustly excluded from a professional opportunity, we took action together to enforce our contract.

Our member was working as a Staff Services Analyst (SSA) and was excluded from the Associate Governmental Program Analyst (AGPA) eligibility list by the CalVet hiring office because they claimed that our member did not have the required five years of analytical experience.

They argued that our member’s current position and previous work history were not analytical in nature. Together with our union, the member filed an appeal to the State Personnel Board (SPB), providing information about the duties being performed in the current SSA position.

SPB granted a Resolution and Order in our member’s favor, concluding that to meet the experience requirement for the AGPA position that was being sought, the employee needed to possess three years of professional analytical experience rather than five.

In the appeal, we were able to demonstrate a total of six years, eight months and one week of professional analytical experience as described in the employee’s previous work experience.

Our member scored a 95 percent on the AGPA exam and is thrilled about the new job opportunities that have opened up after making the effort to challenge the initial determination by CalVet.

“Our united makes us a strong union. Membership matters. Together we have the power to fight for economic justice for all us.”

—Tamekia N. Robinson
Vice President for Organizing/Representation
This month we’re celebrating the achievements of women including their great contributions to social, economic and environmental justice throughout history.

One woman who made such an impact was Frances Perkins Wilson, a workers’ rights advocate who served as the U.S. Secretary of Labor from 1933-45, the longest time anyone has served in that position and the first woman appointed to the U.S. Cabinet.

Called the principal architect of the New Deal, she spent a lifetime creating better opportunities for women in the workplace and better standards for all working families.

As Secretary of Labor, she drafted the Social Security Act of 1935, which created the Social Security system in the U.S.

Through the Fair Labor Standards Act, she established the first minimum wage and overtime laws for American workers and defined the standard 40-hour work week.

Early in her career, Wilson was driven by the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire in 1911, where she witnessed in horror as 47 workers, mostly young women, jumped to their death as fire engulfed the building and ultimately took the lives of 146.

She became Executive Secretary of New York’s Citizen Committee on Safety and worked to prevent further tragedies in the city’s factories.

Wilson died in 1965. Her contributions to social justice and workers’ rights carry on today.

"There is always a large horizon.... There is much to be done! It is up to you to contribute some small part to a program of human betterment for all time."

Frances Perkins Wilson
1880–1965