

# Unit 21 votes for unity

## *Workers keep Local 1000 representation*

The Educational Consultants and Librarians of Unit 21 voted overwhelmingly to stay united with the other eight bargaining units and 95,000 other workers represented by Local 1000 over an organization with less resources and experience dealing with state employees.

By a 63 percent margin, voting members rejected an effort to forgo the protections offered by Local 1000, the largest union of state employees. The decisive vote came after Unit 21's elected bargaining team joined other Unit 21 professionals in dozens of meetings to remind their colleagues that, even during the worst economic recession in 60 years, Local 1000 remains committed to

furthering the gains we achieved at the bargaining table in the 2008-09 campaign. Future priorities include equity, retention and recruitment incentives and the elimination of outsourcing.

"Now that the election is behind us, it's important that we continue the progress we've made to strengthen Unit 21," said Chair Terry Lawhead, a program assistant working at the California Community Colleges. "We now need to mobilize our members

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— Terry Lawhead  
Chair, Unit 21



and continue to work with Local 1000's professional lobbyists, research department and attorneys to pass AB 755, which would reduce the amount of work outsourced to visiting educators. We have to stick together to improve our ability to get exactly what we deserve."

# Legislators vote to scrap outsourcing

## *Department of Public Health to drop pricey contractors*

A key Assembly subcommittee approved a budget revision for the Department of Public Health (DPH) to hire 58 new workers because officials agree it is more cost effective than using contractors to perform the same work.

"This vote by Assembly members validates the work we have done proving that the state can save money by hiring state workers to perform work that is often given out to pricey private contractors," said Marie Harder, a senior information systems analyst in the Department of Public Health.

### **Outsourcing: no savings**

Assembly Budget Subcommittee 1 voted on April 27 to support the DPH in-sourcing plan after Harder and public health officials testified that research by both Local 1000 and the Research Bureau of the State Library found that even when including benefits, the cost of having contractors cost twice as much.

Harder told the committee that Government Code 19130(a) explicitly permits state agencies to use private contractors if it can be shown that outsourcing is cost efficient.

*"More legislators are starting to catch on that outsourcing is not a cost-saving measure."*

— Marie Harder  
senior information  
systems analyst

"But the state rarely uses that provision of Government Code because the facts show it costs more to hire contractors," Harder said.

### **Contracts challenged**

The Assembly subcommittee vote follows a similar vote taken by a state Senate budget subcommittee in March. Both votes follow a DPH policy change brought on after Local

1000 attorneys have won more than 80 percent of our outsourcing contract challenges. The policy change still must be approved by both houses of Legislature and the governor.

For more information go to [seiu1000.org](http://seiu1000.org) and watch The Channel 1000 News.

## Employee Free Choice



### **Member flies 3,000 miles to hold Feinstein accountable to voters**

Local 1000 member Ed Hass is willing to go a long way to support the Employee Free Choice Act – 3,000 miles. Hass was one of five SEIU members who flew to Washington, D.C. last week for a breakfast meeting with U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein. She remains undecided on Employee Free Choice – legislation that would make it easier for workers to join unions.

Hass, a staff services analyst for the California Department of

Corrections and Rehabilitation, spent 27 years working for non-union high-tech companies. His previous employer's CEO told the press after massive layoffs that "in this tough economy, we must all tighten our belts" – and then he bought himself a \$3 million dollar yacht a month later. Hass also understands that low wages in the private sector put pressure on legislators to reduce compensation for public employees.

"Workers have no power at non-union employers, the boss can lie as much as he wants" Hass said. "We need unions – and the Employee Free Choice Act – so people can get the basics."

Local 1000 members will be part of a nationwide series of all-night vigils in the support of the bill tonight and Thursday. For more information, go to [seiu1000.org](http://seiu1000.org) and click the "Political Action" icon.

**"We need unions ... and the Employee Free Choice Act."**

**—Ed Hass**  
CDCR staff services analyst

## Board of Equalization

### **Workers demand answers & action**

#### **DGS manager grilled over health hazards at Local 1000 forum**

Employees of the Board of Equalization (BOE) grilled state management representatives last week on the safety hazards at agency's troubled Sacramento headquarters. Local 1000-represented workers also demanded that the state move everyone out of the building until the hazards are abated.

Hundreds of workers attended the meetings sponsored by Local 1000 last week. Many grew impatient and angry at a Department of General Services (DGS) supervisor who would not commit to an exit strategy.

"The Department of General Services' response was totally unsatisfactory. We need to move everyone out until this building is safe," said Carole Morrison, who has worked at BOE headquarters since 1993.

After working several years on the 21st floor, Morrison suffered numerous health problems, including a series of nose bleeds that caused her to spend seven hours in a hospital emergency room.

"I feel like DGS and the legislators are not taking our health seriously," said Morrison, who moved to the fourth floor. "The problems here are real and we need to work together to move to safe offices."

The Assembly Budget Committee will be holding a hearing on the building on Thursday and Local 1000 members are urging legislators to fund an immediate relocation.



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**—Carole Morrison**  
BOE headquarters employee since 1993

## Case records technicians plan statewide grievances

### **Prison bosses & DPA won't apply uniform duty statement for new classification**

Unless state officials reopen talks, Local 1000 will file grievances statewide over the Department of Personnel Administration's (DPA) refusal to resolve problems with the one-year-old Case Record Technician (CRT) classification.

The problems, which may affect up to

**"The state should be proactive and come back to the table."**

**—Bob Kersch**  
Chair, Local 1000 CRT Committee

1,200 workers in 33 prisons, stem from inconsistencies in duty statements at each institution. The lack of uniform standards is causing problems for workers interested in promotions and, if not ad-

dressed soon, is expected to cause further headaches in years to come.

"With a new classification, we can solve these problems now," said Bob Kersch, chair of the Local 1000 CRT Committee. "We should nip this in the bud before it gets ugly. We shouldn't have to resort to the grievance process. The state should be proactive and come back to the table."

Workers with questions about the CRT classification should contact Memo Durgin at [gdurgin@seiu1000.org](mailto:gdurgin@seiu1000.org)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL LOCAL 1000 TOLL FREE: (866) 471-SEIU (7348) or visit our website: [www.seiu1000.org](http://www.seiu1000.org)

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