

Local 1000 members storm the Capitol

More than 500 members stormed the Capitol last week, letting the governor know they've had enough. The action took place just after Local 1000 President Yvonne Walker challenged the Legislature to pass our contract and challenged the governor to stop wasteful outsourcing of state work.



Local 1000 members challenge the governor and legislators on private contracts and approve our ratified agreement.

of the Capitol “that we are the ones who do the work ... until we take a stand against these cuts, the governor and the Legislature will continue to think they can cut us.”

Last Tuesday, members statewide began flooding the governor's phone and fax lines with a three-part message:

“Why in a time of crisis, would the governor not look at the hidden branch of government – the more than \$34 billion of private contracts out there right now?,” Walker said. “Why wouldn't the governor and the Legislature cut wasteful spending first, especially when state workers can do the work for one-third or even one-half less?”

“We are the only union who has stepped forward and offered a savings package,” Walker continued. “Our contract will save the state \$320 million immediately. In this time of crisis, how does the Legislature not sign our contract?”

Walker's challenges were in response to the governor's latest round of cuts: 5,000 layoffs and a five percent pay cut.

Walker also called on all Local 1000 members to take to the streets and let the governor know every time he steps out

- We overwhelmingly ratified a new labor agreement that saves the state more than \$320 million.
- We increased productivity to cope with skyrocketing workloads and fewer people.
- We offered specific recommendations to save the taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars annually.

Last week, Local 1000 began passing petitions, underscoring Walker's third challenge to the governor: “We won't stand for a five percent pay cut.”

For more information on the petition or on how to send the governor a phone or fax message, go to seiu1000.org

Be sure to watch Channel 1000 for up-to-date news at seiu1000.org or channel1000.org

Members testify at Budget Conference Committee

Scores of Local 1000 members testified at the Joint Budget Conference Committee hearings, telling the legislators to pass our contract and urging them to look into savings strategies before giving in to the governor's proposals to cut services.

“It just doesn't make sense to balance the Legislature's flawed budget by

taking jobs away from hard working families,” said Janet Zimmer, a workers' compensation insurance technician, who testified during public comment on SCIF. “State Fund employees urge you to recoup nearly six billion dollars by cancelling the unnecessary outsourcing contracts that SCIF has entered into. State employees are trained, capable and willing to do those jobs.”



Janet Zimmer testifying at the budget conference committee on SCIF.

Article 14.8 - Contracting Out
Stopping outsourcing of state work

Your union contract contains hundreds of provisions designed to protect your rights. **Article 14.8 - Contracting Out**, protects our jobs from being outsourced. This Article entitles Local 1000 to meet and confer with departments who contract out, to mitigate or avoid the need for that contracting.

Your Local 1000 contract guarantees:

- The state must make every effort to hire, utilize and retain bargaining unit employees before hiring private contractors.
- Employees should not be displaced by private contracts.
- Displacement includes layoff, involuntary demotion and involuntary transfer to a new location requiring a change of residence and time base reductions.
- Departments must provide Local 1000 with sufficient information to determine if unnecessary and additional costs are being incurred by contracting out.
- Departments must provide Local 1000 with copies of personal service contracts for services in bargaining unit classifications.
- Any contracting by the state must comply with the process governed by the State Personnel Board (SPB).

How to take Action

Contact your Local 1000 steward if you feel your department is not complying with its responsibilities. Your steward will work with you, management and Local 1000's legal and research departments to determine the best course of action. For more information regarding **Article 14.8 - Contracting Out**, review your contract by logging on to www.seiu1000.org.

CDCR educators fighting prison cuts

Governor's plan will increase costs

More than 50 prison educators – representing 17 different facilities up and down the state - came together in Sacramento to fight Gov. Schwarzenegger's proposal to eliminate vocational training, educational programs and substance abuse counseling at all California state prisons.

Testifying at a joint conference committee on the budget, Unit 3 members told legislators that slashing the vital programs would actually cost the state more than the \$787 million in budget savings claimed by the governor. At the same time, the governor and federal judges have proposed plans that could put tens of thousands of inmates back on the streets.

"I work in the trenches with these convicted felons -- I stand between them and your families," said Susan Bruno, a vocational instructor at Pleasant Valley State Prison. "You can see the changes in these people – they are people just like us – and if we don't help them now, we will pay for it, not just in dollars, but in flesh and blood."

Local 1000 members presented a 15-point prison reform plan to the Joint Budget Conference Committee. Key points included reforms in the parole and release provisions in California law, expanding programs that offer academic and vocational skills, and our continued opposition to prison privatization and the wasteful outsourcing of medical services.

"The governor pushed to add rehabilitation to the mission of the California Department of Corrections – and now he's trying to take it back by finding a quick fix. The real path to savings at CDCR is to offer inmates the skills they need to contribute to society," said Cindie Fonseca, chair of Bargaining Unit 3.

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—Susan Bruno
vocational instructor at
Pleasant Valley State Prison



Susan Bruno was one of more than 50 members testifying to save inmate rehabilitation programs.