

Budget battle heating up statewide

Members exerting constant pressure

As of press time Monday morning, the Legislature was preparing to vote on recommendations from the Joint Budget Conference Committee that include a series of money saving proposals. Republican legislators and the governor have made their opposition public, and are expected to vote against the committee recommendations. Their rejection of the cost-saving ideas will set the stage for a protracted legislative budget battle, and the likelihood of additional pay cuts remains.

“It is time we stand up and say ‘enough,’” Local 1000 president Yvonne Walker said. “We must say ‘no’ to additional pay cuts, ‘no’ to additional layoffs, and ‘no’ to state workers being the butt of every joke that the governor makes.”

Budget recommendations include cuts and revenues

The governor and his Republican allies are rejecting budget recommendations that would bridge a projected \$23.2 billion deficit through a combination of cuts and revenues. The recommendations include more than \$11 billion in program reductions and cuts, including deep cuts to health and human services, \$1.2 billion in cuts to corrections and \$7.5 billion in cuts for K-12 and higher education.

Also included are \$7 billion dollars in new revenues, including \$2 billion from increased taxes on cigarettes and oil drilling, and \$5 billion through increased fees and early collection of some taxes. The committee also recommended other solutions that include selling a portion of SCIF for \$1 billion and saving



Members up and down the state are standing up - fighting against additional pay cuts, wasteful outsourcing and layoffs.

\$1 billion dollars by moving the pay period from one fiscal year (June 30) to another (July 1).

Actions every day leading to budget watch rally

On Friday, Local 1000 members delivered 35,000 signatures on petitions calling for no pay cuts and a budget that balances the sacrifice. The petitions were delivered to Schwarzenegger’s offices in Sacramento, San Francisco, San Diego, Fresno, and to his home in Brentwood on Saturday.

The petition delivery kicked off two weeks of actions, including pickets at all 42 prisons protesting cuts that will make our communities less safe. The actions will culminate in a massive “Budget Watch” rally at the Capitol on June 30 and July 1.

“It’s time we stand against the governor,” Walker said. “He cannot continue to use his bully pulpit to disparage state workers and eliminate vital state services.”

Local 1000 is reviewing Layoff notices

Local 1000 is reviewing Layoff/SROA notices – received by members - from the Department of Personnel Administration (DPA) for irregularities and inconsistencies with the process.

If you have received a Layoff or SROA notice, there are a number of important things you can do:

- If you haven’t already, fax your Layoff notice to Local 1000 (916) 554-1269.
- Complete the Local 1000 survey avail-

able online. Your response will help Local 1000 represent your interests.

- Take advantage of your EAP (Employee Assistance Program) benefit. This is a free, confidential service. Trained counselors can help you and your family members.
- Make sure your seniority calculation (your months of state service credits) is correct. Departments are in the process of notifying employees of their calculations and you’ll

have 30 days to challenge the date.

Go to **seiu1000.org** to read the letter from Local 1000 President Yvonne Walker and to download and print out the Layoff Survey.



KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

YOUR UNION CONTRACT PROTECTIONS

Your contract protects your union activities

Your right to take action in support of Local 1000 is protected by California state law and provisions in our union contract. If you are ever prevented from exercising your right to participate in any way, contact your Local 1000 job steward.

Express your union beliefs	Your right to support the union and to express pro-union opinions to other employees and to management. (Government Code section 3512 et seq. – Dills Act)
Wear your union colors	Your right to wear buttons and stickers, and to wear union clothing. (Dills Act)
Display union materials	Your right to post and display union materials inside your workspace. (Dills Act)
Distribute union materials	Your right to distribute union materials during non-work time. (Contract Article 2.4)
Post union materials	Your right to display union materials on appropriate bulletin boards. (Contract Article 2.4)
Attend union meetings	Your right to attend union meetings on non-work time. (Contract Article 2.5 and Dills Act)
Picket and demonstrate	Your right to picket or demonstrate in support of the union during non-work time. (Dills Act)

Stop the fire sale of state assets

State Fund sale would hurt workers and small businesses

Local 1000 is coming out strongly against the against Gov. Schwarzenegger's proposed scheme to sell off the most profitable assets of the State Compensation Insurance Fund (SCIF), leaving the rest of the agency weaker.

"We're not going to stand by while the governor tries to sell off SCIF to the same Wall Street speculators and insurance giants that ruined our economy," Local 1000 President Yvonne Walker said. "This is a scheme that will only drive up rates for California's businesses."

On Tuesday, the Legislature's Joint Budget Conference Committee voted to support the governor's proposal to try and earn \$1 billion by selling a portion of SCIF to a private firm.

The proposal could endanger the jobs and contract protections of many of State Fund's 5,000 Local 1000 employees. The plan is expected to result in higher insurance costs for California businesses.

"Local 1000 will keep fighting to protect the rights of SCIF employees and California's small businesses by thwarting the fire sale of an important state asset," Walker said.

Pound-foolish on public safety

Members fight to save prison rehabilitation, protect California families

Less than two years after adopting AB 900, a comprehensive law to reform California's ailing prisons, the state stands ready to sacrifice long-term public safety by making ill-advised, short-term budget cuts.

The Legislature's Joint Budget Conference Committee effectively gave up on inmate rehabilitation by initially cutting \$175 million of the state's \$440 billion rehabilitation budget. If the committee vote is approved by both houses, hundreds of prison educators are expected to lose their jobs.

Local 1000 is fighting to change the budget language before the proposal is voted on by both houses of the Legislature. Local 1000 leaders have met with legislative staff and identified up to \$46 million in savings that could reduce the amount of program cuts.

"These cuts are the worst example of a penny-wise and pound-foolish decision I've ever seen," Cindie Fonseca, chair of the Bargaining Unit 3 educators. "By trimming just \$175 million out of \$100 billion general fund budget, the state has set it up so that taxpayers will be forced to pay billions in increased prison, parole and court costs for generations to come."

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

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