

Purple wave swamps DPA

Members rally to tell state "Value Us"



Chanting "Value Us, Value Us," more than 1,000 state employees demonstrated outside the office of the state's chief negotiator, demanding a new contract that respects our central role in providing services for California residents.

The Monday rally was in support of a petition with several thousand signatures asking Department of Personnel Administration Director David Gilb for a contract that delivers a wage increase, equity adjustments and professional development programs.



**"We're the state's backbone.
We're the human infrastructure that
holds California together."**

— Local 1000 President Yvonne Walker

"We're here today because the state isn't listening to its employees," said Local 1000 President Yvonne Walker. "We need to be valued for the important services that we perform. We're the state's backbone ... we're the human infrastructure that holds California together."

Several speakers at the rally also took aim at Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and the Legislature for not finding a solution to the budget mess that is now an estimated \$15 billion deficit for fiscal 2008-09.

Speaker Claudia Gambaro asked the governor to fix the problem in his native German, as well as seven other languages.

"What language must we speak so that you can understand that we state workers are underpaid and over-worked?" asked Gambaro.

The fight for a new contract continues



Bargaining enters tough new phase July 14

Local 1000 is taking bargaining to the next phase in July after the state rejected our proposal for a 7.5 percent general salary increase on Friday.

“The state didn’t tell us anything we didn’t expect,” said Local 1000 President Yvonne Walker. “We’ll just have to be more active in our worksite actions and more creative in our proposals and our solutions to this contract and the state’s budget crisis.”

After a month of bargaining, state negotiators were unprepared to bargain seriously, unwilling to move on economic issues and unrelenting in the attempts to weaken contract prohibitions against sexual harassment and discrimination, as



Kathleen Collins took over Tuesday as vice president for bargaining

well as guarantees that supervisors treat us with dignity and courtesy.

While Local 1000 will resume bargaining with the state on July 14, we will also press our fight with workplace actions, such as Monday’s rally, as well as lobbying legislators, the governor and the general public with our message of preserving essential state services.

“The administration got itself into this mess and once again they’re expecting state workers to pick up the pieces,” Unit 1 Chair Margarita Maldonado said. “The services we provide still need to be delivered—deficit or no deficit—and the state is going to have to give us a fair contract for those services.”

Local 1000 contract protections remain in place

Local 1000’s master contract with the state – detailing hundreds of state worker rights and benefits – expired on Monday, June 30. But all of the contract’s guarantees remain in place.

“Basically nothing changes,” said Paul Harris, Local 1000 chief counsel. “All of the existing rights and

benefits including all wages, leaves, health benefits and the right to arbitrate grievances continue in effect until we reach a new agreement.”

The full contract can be accessed online at seiu1000.org or by contacting your steward or union representative.

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

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Members uniting to win

