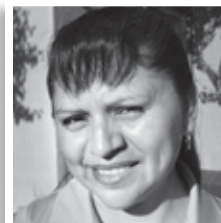
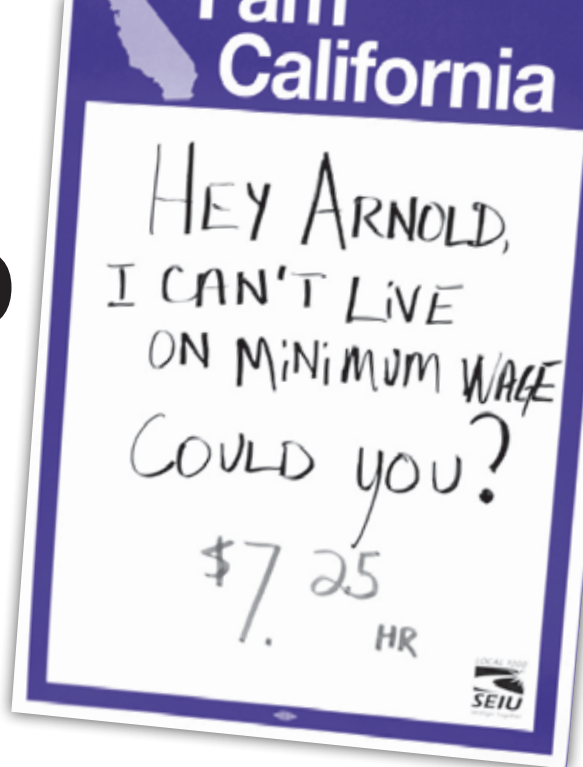


Members stepping up

State workers lobby legislators for continuous funding

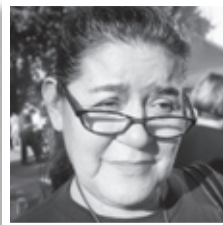
Nearly 500 state workers participated in a July 7 lobby event urging Senate President Pro tem Darrell Steinberg to call the Senate back into session so they can pass AB 1699, which would ensure the state can pay its bills—including state worker salaries.

Here is what some members said they would do to make sure AB 1699 passes and minimum wage is thwarted:



Josefina Tovar
Dept. of General Services

“I told Sen. Steinberg that I don’t need a promise; I need action ... that I need him to stand up to Gov. Schwarzenegger for our jobs and our pay.”



Veronica Penn
Dept. of Motor Vehicles

“I’m passing out fliers and getting the word out to my coworkers

about AB 1699, and I’m not stopping there. I will be working the phone banks this fall to elect a governor who respects what state workers do.”



Cruz Naranjo
Dept. of Health Care Services

“We have a choice in November—are you going to choose

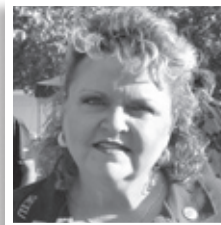
the person who’s going to bring you more pain, or the one who’s going to alleviate it?”



David R. Johnson
Board of Equalization

“I’ve written my senator. I’m encouraging all of my coworkers to

contact state senators and tell them to pass AB 1699.”



Cindy Doyel
Office of Technology Services

“I am encouraging all my coworkers to do everything they can

to let their legislators know they need to pass AB 1699.”

JULY 14, 2010

UNION UPDATE

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State employees did not cause this budget crisis

A local business owner's account of minimum wage worries

Art Vallejo is not a state employee. But Gov. Schwarzenegger's decision to impose federal minimum wage may cost him more income than most state workers.

"Minimum wage is going to kill us," said Vallejo, who owns three restaurants near the Capitol. "No one can afford to eat out on minimum wage ... I pay my dishwashers more ... I'll have to close down at least one restaurant and lay off staff because of this."

"Furloughs hurt businesses all over Sacramento. Minimum wage will finish the job furloughs started and kill off scores of small businesses."

—Art Vallejo

Owner of three Sacramento restaurants

Like many local businesses, Vallejo was hanging on by a thread until the end of furloughs, hoping that business would soon bounce back.

"Furloughs hurt businesses all over Sacramento," Vallejo said. "Minimum wage will finish the job furloughs started and kill off scores of small businesses."

Minimum wage will cost the state economy \$1 billion a month and cause the loss of more than 5,000 private sector jobs, according to a recently completed economic analysis.

"We all depend on state employees," said Rob Kerth of Sacramento's Midtown Business Association. "Our small businesses will be collateral damage from minimum wage."

Vallejo said he managed to get through furloughs by letting go some workers, reducing the hours of others and doing more work himself. But minimum wage presents even more problems for him.

"The minimum wage order may only last a couple months, but it will take me years to recover," Vallejo said. "It's really bad because state employees did not cause this budget crisis. Why put it all on them?"

Gov's actions are reckless

We urge the Senate to pass AB 1699

By President Yvonne Walker

The governor's decision to use state workers as budget pawns is going to cost California's struggling economy more than \$1 billion a month according to a just-completed forecast of the economic impact of cutting state employees to the federal minimum wage.

It doesn't have to be this way. No law requires the governor to cut wages. The Assembly has already passed AB 1699—a temporary funding measure that would avert this crisis. We urge the Senate to do the same.

No employer in his or her right mind would subject their employees to a punishing 68 percent pay cut, let alone expose their business (in this case, the state's economy) to a \$1 billion hit; to do so when it is unnecessary is nothing short of reckless.

"No employer in his or her right mind would subject their employees to a punishing 68 percent pay cut."

—Yvonne Walker

SEIU Local 1000
President



There is no financial reason to impose minimum wage at this time. State Controller John Chiang has projected that – even without a budget deal – the state's incoming revenue is enough to cover ongoing expenses into October.

The human impact of imposing a 68 percent pay cut would be catastrophic. Alice – a 15-year corrections employee – sums up the impact: "Minimum wage will destroy us ... It will destroy California ... More people will lose their homes, their cars and, God forbid, their lives."

There is no reason to suffer this loss on California's already struggling economy—or on its employees. The Legislature and all Californians need to say "NO" in the strongest possible terms.