

AUGUST 17, 2011

UNION UPDATE



Ask Congress:

Where are the jobs?

August recess actions connect members with legislators

Local 1000 members are stepping up and challenging congressional representatives in seven California districts to make job creation their first legislative priority.

Their efforts—which include participating in town halls, joining public actions and sending messages to elected officials—are part of a national campaign taking place during Congress’ August recess.

“At EDD my coworkers and I see firsthand the rising number of unemployment claims in this state,” explains Nikki Linnerman, a disability insurance program representative with the Employment Development Department. “And in our district alone, the unemployment rate is nearing 18 percent.”

Linnerman, along with other EDD employees, sees the need for more jobs. “I’m organizing my coworkers and community groups to ask the question, ‘Where are the jobs?’”

In addition to serving as secretary in District Labor Council 769 in Stockton, Linnerman is a member of the Local 1000 Committee on Political Education (COPE)—a group of Local 1000 members committed to strengthening the political voice of state workers.

This month, Linnerman organized a job creation town hall meeting with Congressman Jerry McNerney in Stockton—a city hit hard by the current economic climate.

“I’m always looking for opportunities to connect my coworkers to our congressperson. At town hall meetings I express my concerns about the need for real jobs,” Linnerman said.

The August recess actions are part of SEIU’s Fight for a Fair Economy—the battle against the fundamental imbalance of power between corporate America and middle class working families.



“I’m always looking for opportunities to connect my coworkers to our congressperson.”

—Nikki Linnerman
Secretary, DLC 769

You can take part in targeted actions for these members of Congress by visiting seiu1000.org/fair-economy

- District 4:** Tom McClintock
- District 5:** Doris Matsui
- District 10:** John Garamendi
- District 11:** Jerry McNerney
- District 18:** Dennis Cardoza
- District 20:** Jim Costa
- District 21:** Kevin McCarthy

SPB/DPA merger: protecting member rights

Local 1000 continues to protect members’ rights and jobs as Gov. Jerry Brown’s proposal to merge the State Personnel Board (SPB) and Department of Personnel Administration (DPA) into a more efficient California department of human resources moves through the legislature.



President Yvonne Walker and DPA Director Ron Yank speaking with Local 1000 members on August 4

“We’ve been involved in the process since the governor proposed the merger in January,” said Local 1000 vice president for bargaining, Margarita Maldonado.

“We want to ensure that any reorganization keeps in place the hard-earned policies and processes used to hire, promote,

classify and discipline employees.”

Local 1000 president, Yvonne R. Walker, led a town hall meeting August 4 between state management and employees that could be impacted by the merger. Walker emphasized Local 1000’s key issues: “The new CalHR must keep the merit system principles in place and

ensure SPB neutrality.” Details on the reorganization plan are still forthcoming. A legislative hearing is scheduled for August 23.

Member FAQs

Some of the most frequently asked questions from members calling our Member Resource Center

Q: When does the Personal Leave Program (PLP) stop?

A: PLP accruals began Nov. 1, 2010, and will continue through Oct. 31, 2011. Beginning Nov. 1, 2011, this program ends, and you will see a 4.62 percent increase in your pay. December 1 is the first paycheck that will reflect the increase. For more information, see Section 8 of your contract.

Q: Where do I find the union contract online?

A: On our homepage under "Around the Union," click on the purple box "Read the Ratified Agreement". You can read it online or download a copy.

Q: How do I apply for a hardship transfer?

A: An employee applies for a hardship transfer in writing to his or her supervisor. The department has 15 calendar days to respond in writing. (Article 15.3)

Q: When do I receive merit salary adjustments (MSA)?

A: Employees not at the top step of their classification receive an annual MSA on the anniversary date of their most recent appointment. (Article 11.7)

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED



Your union is here to help!

call your **Member Resource Center**

866.471.SEIU (7348)

Resource Center

Monday-Friday
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
866.471.SEIU (7348)

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Michael Bilbrey wins Special CalPERS Board Election

Local 1000-endorsed candidate, Michael Bilbrey has won the special runoff election for the vacant seat on the CalPERS Board of Administration.

"Our members stepped up to support a candidate who is committed to protecting our retirement security," said Yvonne Walker, Local 1000 president.

According to the unofficial vote count, Bilbrey received 117,034 votes while Richard Ross received 78,718 votes. The result is not official until certified by the California Secretary of State's Office.

For more information about the election, visit CalPERS.ca.gov



Each year hundreds of kids go to school without the most basic supplies. This year you can help send a child back to school prepared to learn the right way.

SEIU Local 1000 Adopt-A-School Program is partnering with the Sacramento City Unified School District to provide basic educational tools to one of its at-risk schools.

Help us reach our goal of providing supplies to 500 underprivileged kids!

Donate the following items:

- Binders
- Folders
- Pencils
- Notebooks
- Pens
- Paper

SEIU Local 1000 is collecting items at your worksite:

August 1 – August 26

QUESTIONS?

Contact Leon Youngblood
lyoungblood@seiu1000.org or **916.554.1289**

You can also find more information online at:

seiu1000.org/adopt-a-school.php