

OCT 23
2013

UNION UPDATE

LOCAL 1000

SEIU
Stronger Together

Anti-outsourcing bill becomes state law

Brown signs contract transparency bill after push by members

After receiving 3,397 letters from Local 1000 members, Gov. Jerry Brown signed into law a bill that adds legislative muscle to our ongoing fight to protect jobs and prevent wasteful government spending.

AB 906, authored by Assemblymember Dr. Richard Pan (D-Sacramento), increases public scrutiny of private vendor contracts that are out of control and receiving little oversight.

“Local 1000 has been a strong advocate of the wise spending of taxpayer dollars. We have shown over and over that using state employees is a more effective and efficient use of those dollars. Using private contractors typically does not save the state money,” Local 1000 President Yvonne R. Walker said. “Now that AB 906 is law, the state will do a serious cost benefit analysis on the billions spent on private contractors.”

Labor unions to be notified of proposed contracts

AB 906 requires that, when proposing contracts, state agencies must notify all civil service employee organizations capable of carrying out the work related to such contracts.

“We have a responsibility to taxpayers to not waste money on outsourcing jobs when California already has the most efficient civil service employees in the country,” Pan said.

The new law is another hallmark of years of effort by Local 1000 and our allies to force the state to be more accountable in the contracting out process, which is largely outside the public eye. Over the past five years, Local 1000 has challenged more than 100 state contracts before the State Personnel Board, winning 80 percent of those challenges. In many cases, those money-saving victories took jobs away from outside vendors and returned them to state employees.

Joint task force looks at contracting out of state work

In another victory in the fight against wasteful outsourcing, Local 1000’s new contract, ratified by our members in July, made permanent a joint Budget Solutions Task Force. The ongoing work of the task force – comprised of representatives of the state and Local 1000 – will achieve real savings for the state and protect state jobs by reviewing and analyzing private vendor contracts.

To read a Local 1000 investigation into the lack of transparency in state contracting, go to seiu1000.me/GZK6km

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–Yvonne R. Walker
President, SEIU Local 1000



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–Dr. Richard Pan
Assemblymember
(D-Sacramento)

New laws to reinvest in prison education

Members led fight to modernize standards

Local 1000 teachers in Bargaining Unit 3 led a successful campaign to pass two far-reaching bills into law that will help to cut crime, reduce prison overcrowding and save taxpayer money through improved prison education at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR).

More than 3,000 Local 1000 members took part in a grass-roots campaign calling on the governor to sign these and other key pieces of legislation into law. In all, more than two dozen bills supported and sponsored by Local 1000 became law in the final days of the 2012-2013 legislative session.



“This is the kind of success that can happen when members come together to create change in the workplace and at the Capitol.”

– Wade Bouton
Electronics instructor
California Medical Facility in Vacaville

“Gov. Brown heard our members, the experts in correctional education,” said John Kern, a 30-year prison educator who serves as chair of Bargaining Unit 3. “These laws require CDCR to apply real-world criteria to its academic and vocational programs in the post-realignment prison system.”

AB 494, carried by Assemblymember V. Manuel Pérez, replaces the Prisoner Literacy Act of 1987, requiring the state to implement educational programs with modernized criteria designed to address the academic needs of incarcerated learners, from basic literacy to college.

AB 1019, carried by Assemblymember Tom Ammiano, requires CDCR to create a plan to expand career technical programs consistent with realistic job market criteria and trainee success upon release.

“This is a sea change for inmate vocational training,” said Wade Bouton, electronics instructor, California Medical Facility in Vacaville. “This is the kind of success that can happen when members come together to create change in the workplace and at the Capitol.”

AB 494 and AB 1019 will give frontline teachers more control over educational programs for inmates. Both bills were developed with input from Unit 3 members and sponsored by Local 1000. Each attracted bipartisan support in the Legislature and were signed into law by Gov. Jerry Brown.

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Members back low-wage workers

Local 1000 & new research boost national effort for living wage & benefits



Local 1000 members joined recent rallies in Sacramento, Oakland, San Diego and Los Angeles in support of improved rights, benefits and wages for fast-food workers - most of whom are adults raising children and struggling to get by.

The rallies came as a new UC Berkeley report shows that tax-payers end up subsidizing more than half of fast-food jobs that pay so little that workers are forced onto food stamps and other forms of public assistance, costing taxpayers nearly \$7 billion a year.

“Everyone who works hard deserves a shot at the American dream,” said Local 1000 President Yvonne R. Walker at the rally. “It is unconscionable that any American who works hard at one, sometimes two jobs to support their family, should still be forced to rely on food stamps to get by.”