

All six Local 1000-sponsored bills clear committee hurdles

Strong testimony by leaders and members make politics matter at the Capitol

All six Local 1000-sponsored bills cleared key legislative committees last week, including a bill to force the state to stop laying off workers and replacing them with expensive private contractors.

“Our legislative agenda has gotten through the first set of hurdles,” said Local 1000 President Yvonne R. Walker. “We’re making politics matter for our members by aggressively pursuing legislation that affects our lives at work and in our communities. We need to keep driving these important pieces of legislation all the way to the governor’s desk.”

SB 343 CDCR Librarians and Inmate Community College Incentives

SB 343, carried by Sen. Loni Hancock (D-Oakland), adds Unit 3 librarians to the CDCR rehabilitation team and expands their role in preparing prison inmates for successful parole. The bill also adds incentives for the completion of two- and four-year college degrees.

AB 1293 State Contracts & Outsourcing

AB 1293, from Assemblymember Chris R. Holden (D-Los Angeles), prevents the state from using personal service contracts when it causes the displacement of state



President Yvonne R. Walker pictured with John M. Glynn (left) and Michael Roosevelt (right)—two Judicial Council of California employees who testified in behalf of AB 874, which grants them a right to vote for union representation.

employees. This would strengthen Local 1000’s long, hard fight against wasteful outsourcing.

AB 466 State Re-hiring Practices

AB 466 carried by Assemblymember Kevin McCarty (D-Sacramento), clarifies the state’s rules on rehiring state employees who have previously left a state job under a negotiated settlement.

AB 769 Adverse action investigation deadlines

Carried by Assemblymember Reggie Jones-Sawyer (D-Los Angeles), AB 769 streamlines the state’s civil service employee discipline process by requiring most investigations to be completed in one year, as is already the case with law enforcement employees.

AB 840 Nurses and Patient Safety Act

AB 840, carried by Sebastian Ridley-Thomas (D-Los Angeles),

prohibits nurses and certified nursing assistants from being compelled to work mandatory overtime beyond their regularly scheduled work day or week, with limited exceptions. Passage of this bill would enhance safety for patients, state workers and their communities.

AB 874 Judicial Council representation

This bill, carried by Assemblymember Anthony Rendon (D-Lakewood), helps state employees at the Judicial Council gain the right to vote for union representation.

“We believe this bill is the best way to extend representation rights to employees who seek the same workplace and collective bargaining rights that their executive branch counterparts in the same job classifications already enjoy,” Walker said in testimony before the committee. “Local 1000 believes that every worker deserves a voice. That’s why we’re strongly supporting AB 874.”

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Local 1000 monitoring upcoming budget revisions

Increased revenues may revive spending for vital services

Next week, the governor will announce his May Revise proposed budget for 2015-16, with updates based on tax revenues collected through April of this year.

“Local 1000 will carefully scrutinize the evolving budget and work to restore spending on the vital services our members provide,” said Yvonne R. Walker, Local 1000 president. “Once again, politics matter as we work to improve the lives of all Californians.”

Surging state tax revenues may help bolster many government programs that have still not recovered from the recession.

The Legislative Analyst’s Office reports state revenue is \$1.6 billion ahead of January projections. April tax collections have increased 27 percent compared to last year, and EDD reports a 16 percent increase in tax withholdings over the same period.

Much of the money will go to K-12 schools and colleges, but some may be used to help restore

funding for state programs that were subjected to massive cuts during the 2009-13 recession. It is not yet clear which services may be affected.

2.5% raise protected

The revised budget will not affect the 2.5 percent pay increase for Local 1000-represented employees scheduled for this July.

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—Yvonne R. Walker
Local 1000 president

The increase is the second installment of the 4.5 percent across-the-board increase negotiated by Local 1000 in 2013. A pay raise was one of four key priorities identified by members, which also included no new furloughs, preservation of our 80/20 benefit package and protection of our hard-earned pensions.

Progress on Unit 4 program tech reclassification

Local 1000 & state to interview workers on duties

Local 1000’s ongoing campaign to update the job specifications of nearly 4,000 Program Technicians (PT) got a boost when the state agreed to jointly interview workers about their duties in several key departments.

The PT classification has not been updated for 20 years while our members’ duties have evolved dramatically. On April 24, CalHR agreed to meet with frontline program technicians in several major departments and talk about their duties. Members of the Local 1000 Program Technician Committee will also participate in the interviews, which will likely include departments



“Reclassification of our program technicians is a top priority for Unit 4.”

Sophia Perkins
Chair of Bargaining Unit 4

with the highest numbers of program technicians such as the Department of Justice, EDD, Covered California and SCIF.

“The state will hear real feedback from our members about their jobs instead of just talking to supervisors or department heads,” said Sophia Perkins, chair of Bargaining Unit 4.

The Program Technician Committee will meet the state on May 21. The interviews with program technicians are expected to take place this summer.

For more information on the reclassification campaign, go to the Unit 4 page at seiu1000.org