

Contract fight targets governor



These yard signs are part of Local 1000's contract campaign. To obtain your own yard sign, call one of the phone numbers on page two or order one at seiu1000.org

After months of relentless attacks by the governor and a trail of broken promises, Local 1000 launched a campaign last week aimed directly at Gov. Schwarzenegger's legacy of broken promises and failed leadership.

The campaign includes statewide radio ads casting Schwarzenegger as a governor who will be remembered not for what he accomplished but for what he promised then walked away from – including a contract with Local 1000 that would save the state \$340 million.

“When you break your word you have nothing left, there's no trust,” said Local 1000 President Yvonne Walker. “We're going to hold this governor accountable and we'll continue this campaign until he lives up to his word and we get the contract he agreed to.”

The campaign consists of activities for thousands of state employees including calls, e-mails and faxes to the governor, thousands of lawn signs, billboards and pressure from Local 1000 allies throughout the state.

“The governor's actions undermine the collective bargaining process that protects California's working families,” said Art Pulaski, head of the California Federation of Labor. “Unchecked, Schwarzenegger's actions set a dangerous precedent that undoubtedly will be replicated in labor negotiations throughout the state.”

Radio ad slams governor on broken promises

TRANSCRIPT: *Classroom sounds, chatter, kids taking seats (chairs across floor, etc.)*

Teacher (female): All right class. Let's continue, legacies of California Governors. We're looking for what people remember about them. Let's start with Governor Pat Brown?

Student 1 (male): Invested in education and created jobs

Teacher: Great answer. Governor Pete Wilson?

Student 2 (female): He was tough on crime.

Teacher: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger?
What will they say about him?

Student 1 (male): Broke his word

Student 2 (female): He just couldn't be trusted.

Teacher: OK those are very strong words. (trail off)

Transition music

Announcer: Broke his word. Couldn't be trusted. Failed leadership. That's what they'll say about Governor Schwarzenegger.

Ask nurses, auditors, teachers — 95,000 state employees represented by SEIU Local 1000.

When the fiscal crisis slammed into California, those workers stepped up and negotiated a contract with the Governor saving California hundreds of millions of dollars.

But Schwarzenegger broke his word. He's refusing to support the agreement he negotiated.

Governor, keep your word. That's what real leaders do.

Support the contract you negotiated.

Paid for By Service Employees International Union, Local 1000.

(To hear the ad, go to seiu1000.org)

To order a lawn sign, go to seiu1000.org

WATCH FOR THIS ENVELOPE

Your pension depends on it.

A key seat on the governing board of CalPERS – our pension system – is up for election. Ballots will be mailed to our homes in early September.

Look for a large envelope from CalPERS with blue and red printing. Open it immediately. Inside you will find a ballot and a candidate statement booklet.

This election is important because it comes at a time when Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is trying to cut our jobs, and others are attacking our retirement benefits.



Local 1000 has endorsed Cathy Hackett for the CalPERS board.

“We work hard for our benefits,” Local 1000 President Yvonne Walker said. “We need Cathy at CalPERS to protect our health care and retirement.”

“We are defending CalPERS against attacks by politicians who want to undermine our retirement security. We want a clear course to stronger investment returns,” Hackett said. “And we are working to make sure that both active and retired members have affordable, accessible healthcare.”



Outsourcing bill clears Senate fiscal committee

AB 756 now goes to the full Senate

A Local 1000-sponsored measure that would bring needed oversight over how much money California state departments spend outsourcing work to private contractors passed a key Senate committee.

AB 756, authored by Assemblymember Mike Eng, was approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee last week by a 9-4 vote that reflects bi-partisan support.

The bill would increase government transparency and improve the state's cost effectiveness by requiring state agencies to disclose all private contracts for personal services, such as computer services.

“I believe we have to shed a bright light on these state contracts and see just how cost effective they really are,” Eng said. “We owe it to the taxpayers.”

Furlough legal battle continues on many fronts

Local 1000's legal challenges to the governor's unilaterally imposed furloughs are moving forward on several fronts and our cause was bolstered by a federal judicial decision and new litigation from an independent state agency.

On Sept. 1, a San Francisco judge is expected to make a decision on Local 1000's challenge to furloughs at the State Compensation Insurance Fund (SCIF), where another judge in the same court has already ruled in favor of state employees.

Last week, a federal judge in Maryland ruled that furloughs are unconstitutional if they breach union contracts. The Maryland decision was based on “contract impairment” clause of the U.S. Constitution. The same issue is raised in a Local 1000 lawsuit that is pending in Alameda County Superior Court.

Also CalPERS filed a legal action in San Francisco Superior Court seeking to overturn furloughs at the pension agency because it does not draw any money from the state's general fund.

The furlough puts CalPERS at risk of not providing timely disability and retirement checks, and health care benefit services, CalPERS Board President Rob Feckner said. The furloughs also harm CalPERS ability to responsibly manage investments.

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

SACRAMENTO (916) 554-1200 • OAKLAND (510) 452-4357 • SAN DIEGO (619) 624-0515

LOS ANGELES (323) 525-2970 • RANCHO CUCAMONGA (909) 466-5044 • FRESNO (559) 226-0756



Watch Early Edition on Channel 1000 Wednesdays at 7 a.m.