

*When we fight as one,
The fight will be won!*



Setting it straight

In this edition of *The Unit 12 Tribune*, we would like to address some of the issues that have come to our attention this past month.

Issue #1

The Department of Personal Administration (DPA) and the departments you work for recently sent out information regarding Government Code 19844.1 and the change in overtime calculation. Under this change, holidays, sick leave, vacation, annual leave, Compensating Time Off (CTO) and any other leave when an employee is excused from work will no longer be considered as time worked by the employee for the purpose of computing overtime. DPA is planning to implement this change effective for the March 2009 pay period. This change will affect 18 of the 21 bargaining units in California.

Union Response

Operating Engineers State Unit 12 recently filed an Unfair Labor Practice (ULP) charge against the state of California. We believe the state cannot implement this change until negotiating with the union. Our recommendation to you is to keep all copies of your payroll checks and a logbook for documentation, and then notify your union representative.

Issue #2

The Department of Transportation recently sent out information to department supervisors notifying them that if their employees worked overtime in a week that they took a furlough day, they would be paid at the straight-time rate and taxed at the overtime rate until they meet 40 hours of actual work or other leave time.

Union Response

We met with DPA and Caltrans Labor Relations regarding this issue, and it was agreed that Caltrans would inform its supervisors that this was incorrect and that Caltrans would do an audit for the furlough weeks and make the proper adjustments if the employees were taxed at the overtime rate for straight-time hours worked. Caltrans believes this won't be corrected until next month's payroll cycle. We again recommend that you keep all your payroll information so that if it doesn't get corrected, we can address the issue.

— Negotiations Update —

Now that the state has a budget, we are working hard to finish up negotiations and bring a package to our membership to look at and vote on. We last met with state officials March 2-7 to try to secure an agreement for you. The state has all of our proposals at this point, and we are waiting for DPA to cost our proposal and get back with us to see where we stand.

Important political update

*By Tim Neep,
Unit 12
Craft Maintenance
director*

Hopefully, you are aware that a Special Election will be held on May 19. I cannot express enough that getting these ballot measures passed by California voters is critical to all state employees. State workers' jobs hinge on these ballot measures. It will not matter if we have a contract or not. If these ballot measures don't get approved, the state will not have the much-needed revenue source it needs to pay the bills and will be broke. It also means the state will not have a budget, and we will be in worse shape after the election than we are now. The men and women who make up the middle class need to **vote yes** on all these ballot measures. It does not matter if you are a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent or part of another political party. If the ballot measures go down, we all go down.

Vote YES



CALIFORNIA MAY 19 SPECIAL ELECTION BALLOT RECOMMENDATIONS

PROPOSITION 1A

Rainy day budget stabilization fund. Reforms the budget process. Limits future deficits and overspending by increasing the size of the state's "rainy day" fund.



PROPOSITION 1B

Education funding. Payment plan. Requires repayments to local school districts and community colleges to address recent budget cuts.



PROPOSITION 1C

Lottery modernization act. Uses increased revenues from the lottery to address the current budget deficit and reduces the need for additional tax increases and cuts to state programs.



PROPOSITION 1D

Children's services funding. Provides greater flexibility in funding to preserve health and human services for young children while helping balance the state budget.



PROPOSITION 1E

Mental health funding budget. Helps balance the state budget and guarantees that certain funding intended for mental health programs goes toward mental health services for children.



PROPOSITION 1F

Elected officials' salaries. Penalizes the legislature and statewide constitutional officers, including the governor, from receiving pay raises in years when the state is running a deficit.



*For more information on these propositions, visit www.sos.ca.gov,
and look for more details in the May edition of Engineers News.*

What does your retirement look like?



Retirement before Mc Cauley Act ...



Retirement after Mc Cauley Act

BEWARE.....

DO NOT SIGN

ANY PETITIONS OR CARDS !

(Tell ALL your friends and family....

Your retirement future depends on it !!!)

