

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



CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

As most of you are aware, the governor has stated that come June 30, the three furlough days a month would end in exchange for the 5/5/5, which is:

1. A permanent 5 percent salary reduction
2. A 5 percent increase from you to your Calpers' retirement
3. A 5 percent savings to the General Fund through attrition of state employees

The governor wants salary reductions and pension reform, however, these items need to be bargained at the negotiation table, and not with the press, which the governor has tried to do. If he does not get what he wants by June 30, he may impose the federal minimum wage for all of his employees or try to implement the 5/5/5 stated above. He said no agreement would be reached without some kind of pension reform.



A BEAR training class is offered in Fresno.

The Unit 12 bargaining team met with the Department of Personnel Administration (DPA) for the first time in 14 months. You will recall that Unit 12 submitted its last contract proposal to the DPA on March 7, 2009 in hopes of avoiding most of the changes in the governor's illegal furlough order. That was when the legal fight started. It was not until recently that the Legislature prodded the governor's office to meet with all the unions, and we were notified to come back to the table for contract negotiations. Obviously, the objective for the DPA is to propose the governor's agenda. When we met with the DPA on May 4, it was no surprise to get a "concept"

proposal that listed many of the things the governor was seeking in his press releases. At this time, nothing regarding the governor's proposal has been agreed to by the bargaining team.

We obviously disagree with the governor in regards to needing more cuts when the majority of our members are funded by sources other than the General Fund.

Our goal is to bargain in good faith and see if we can reach a workable, short-term agreement with the governor that would avoid the federal minimum wage or any kind of permanent wage reduction and give our members a contract we can work with. We will be back at the table June 21-23.



BEAR training calendar

The Be Educated And Ready (BEAR) training program for state employees is picking up steam with classes already completed in the Yuba City-Marysville, Fairfield, Stockton and Fresno areas. Members in the Sacramento and Redding areas are up next. For more information, contact your Local 3 business rep.



Unit 12 Business Rep. Travis Tweedy and member Dave Beasley talk shop during a BEAR training in Yuba City.



Members Lee Moss and Paul Hellwig in a mock strike in Yuba City.



Special Rep. Bob Miller acts as a reporter.



Member Tyrone Marshall and his son, Kalani, walk a mock strike line in Stockton.



Legal update

The California Supreme Court picked up three original furlough cases decided by Sacramento County Superior Court Judge Patrick Marlette and set a June 23 deadline for simultaneous letter briefs and a June 30 deadline for simultaneous reply letter briefs.

Also, Controller John Chiang's appeal of a trial court decision that ruled that he lacks the authority to reject DPA letters to temporarily withhold employees' wages during a budget impasse is set for oral arguments in the 3rd District Court of Appeal on June 21, nine days before the end of the fiscal year.

Operating Engineers has taken several legal actions through the grievance procedure, and now, the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) and superior court are on schedule to move forward. We hope to have some resolution on these cases soon, however, we doubt that any of them will be resolved by July 1.