

IMPORTANCE OF MIDTERM ELECTIONS

A MESSAGE FROM GENERAL PRESIDENT JAMES P. HOFFA

On Tuesday, Nov. 4, Teamsters everywhere should vote for the candidate or candidates who are best for working families. If you haven't already, start educating yourself on who is running for office and whether your union has endorsed a candidate.

Four years ago, hardworking Americans learned firsthand the consequences of staying home instead of supporting politicians who value their contributions to our nation. Since then, we've increasingly seen the views of billionaire businessmen like the Koch brothers take priority over those of the middle class. At a time when many workers continue to struggle to support their families, we can't afford to sit this election out. So the Teamsters are ramping up our efforts to elect candidates who will listen to the rest of us.

There is no shortage of reasons for Teamsters to care about the midterm elections in November, but here are a few big ones: right-to-work legislation, the minimum wage, and the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)—an unfair trade deal in the vein of NAFTA.

This year, the Teamsters Union has also started an online Election Action Center at www.teamster.org/election-center



center. On the site, you can find out how to register in your state, as well as access the union's Congressional Voting Scorecard. As Election Day nears, we'll be putting more information and resources on the page.

James P. Hoffa

TEAMSTERS ELECTION CENTER

Check out the Teamsters' new online tool before voting in the 2014 Midterm Elections!

Enter your information and our new web tool will take care of the rest.

Visit teamster.org/election-center

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Washington, DC 20001



Teamsters Public Services News



James P. Hoffa, General President | Ken Hall, General Secretary-Treasurer | Michael Filler, Division Director

GLOBAL PUBLIC SECTOR UNIONS MEET AT TEAMSTERS



• EFFECTS OF PUBLIC TRADE POLICIES DEBATED •

Meeting with global leaders of public sector unions, Teamsters General President James P. Hoffa and officials from Public Services International (PSI) discussed the growing concerns about the effects of public service trade policies as part of a public trade policy summit held in September at Teamsters headquarters.

"Trade agreements such as TISA, TPP and others will have a detrimental impact on public sector jobs and services in the U.S. and across the world," Hoffa said. "The Teamsters Union and the other unions represented at this summit oppose trade deals that threaten service sector workers just as we always have for workers who produce goods that families rely on. The Teamsters Union also strongly opposes Fast Track, and that's a message that we will take to Capitol Hill tomorrow and later this year in a lame duck Congress."

"The new wave of trade agreements are about far more than trade," said Rosa Pavanelli, General Secretary

of PSI. "They enshrine the power of corporations in ways only loosely related to trade. They lock in liberalization, promote privatization and restrict governments' right to regulate."

During the summit, officials from PSI presented their view on the shortcomings of free trade agreements and how trade-in-service agreements would have devastating results on public service jobs.

Experts on panels provided an overview and forecast about the results of pending public service trade policies, should they be extended.

"It will be the same for service workers as it is for the manufacturing workers – the bosses get their NAFTA and their CAFTA and the workers get the SHAFTA," Hoffa said. "And with the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the Transatlantic Trade Investment Partnership (TTIP) looming, as well as the lesser-known Trade in Services Agreement (TISA), there is reason for real concern."

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PUBLIC EMPLOYEES FIND THEIR VOICE THROUGH TEAMSTER MEMBERSHIP

I recently spoke at a labor law conference where the theme was “finding hope for a beleaguered public sector.” At the federal government level, for example, we are all too familiar with scandals and problems providing quality service to the public. When we look beyond the headlines, however, we often find factors that precipitated these crises, such as substandard or delayed budgets and ineffective oversight or gross mismanagement.

Poorly run organizations abound in the public, as well as the private sector. Even nonprofits, like the Red Cross, have exhibited an inability to value dedicated front-line workers. When that happens, the organization’s future is jeopardized, thereby putting the jobs of our members at risk.

The union must be the voice for its members and those we seek to organize. Involved members provide the fuel to bargain better contracts, and send a strong message of solidarity to employers.

It is important for our story to be told, if we are to stem the tide of anti-union forces seeking to legislate and adjudicate labor out of business. Our campaigns for economic and social justice must become personalized with each member expressing his or her role as a key public service provider. With a mobilized membership that is sharing their stories with elected officials and others, we can turn hope into reality with the prospect of a better future.



Penn State Employees Victorious With New Contract

Members of Local 8 who work at Penn State University have overwhelmingly ratified a new contract that will continue to give the 2,500 workers job stability.

“This contract provides our members with guaranteed wage increases while keeping their health care coverage affordable by capping costs,” said Jon Light, President of Local 8 in State College, Pa., which represents the Penn State workers. “The contract also improves the procedures to address issues involving worker misclassification, which will help more workers at Penn State improve their lives.”

“We are very pleased with the contract because it recognizes the hard work we do every day throughout the Penn State system,” said Dave Summers, an employee at the Penn State—State College campus. “We are proud to be employees of Penn State and we are proud Teamsters.”

“The outstanding participation by Teamster Penn State members in approving this contract clearly indicates they understand the value of a solid collective bargaining agreement—one that guarantees good pay and benefits, along with specific procedures to ensure fairness throughout the workplace,” said Michael Filler, Director of the Teamsters Public Services Division. “Without question, Local 8 is making a difference in the lives of many across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.”

Workers ratified the contract by a 90 percent margin. It is retroactive to July 1, 2014 and runs for three years through June 30, 2017. Ballots were counted Monday, August 18 following a mail-in election.

STAY CONNECTED

Visit teamster.org/election-center, the union’s new online tool, for the Teamsters Congressional Voting Scorecard and other features. For more information about DRIVE, the union’s political action committee, visit teamster.org/content/about-drive.

ELECTION DAY MOTIVATES TEAMSTERS



GETTING OUT THE VOTE ON NOVEMBER 4

The November mid-term elections are right around the corner, and the Teamsters are gearing up to help elect candidates to Congress and in state capitals that put workers’ interests ahead of those of big business.

Teamsters General President James P. Hoffa and General Secretary-Treasurer Ken Hall are visiting states across the country in an effort to get members out to vote. And they will use the 2010 election cycle as an example of what can happen to workers when they don’t show up at the polls.

“Four years ago, hardworking Americans learned firsthand the consequences of staying home instead of supporting politicians who value their contributions to our nation,” Hoffa said. “Since then, we’ve increasingly seen the views of billionaire businessmen like the Koch brothers take priority over those of the middle class. At a time when many workers continue to struggle to support their families, we can’t afford to sit this election out. So the Teamsters are ramping up our efforts to elect candidates who will listen to the rest of us.”

Teamster leaders and members across the country are already preparing to make sure every Teamster knows the issues, who stands with them and what is at stake in this election. And the level of activity will continue to escalate right up until the election.

Hundreds of Teamster members will be visiting their fellow members at their worksites to discuss the election and the issues. The Teamsters Union has the most aggressive worksite communication programs in organized labor, with voter registration taking on a more important role.

There are many reasons for Teamsters to be motivated to vote this November. They may not be the issues that

get highlighted on the evening news, but they are matters that could affect workers’ wallets when it comes to pay and job security. Issues like right to work, the minimum wage, worker misclassification and the Trans-Pacific Partnership will all come before the next congress.

On Election Day, 36 states will hold gubernatorial elections. In the United States Senate, 33 seats are being contested. Wherever there is an important election for working families, the Teamsters Union will be there.

Weekly News for Working Families



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