

APRIL 10

2019

UNION UPDATE

LOCAL 1000  
SEIU  
Stronger Together

# DON'T RAISE OUR HEALTH CARE RATES!

## TELL "BIG INSURANCE" CEOs TO PUT PATIENTS BEFORE PROFITS

Over the past decade, our health care premiums have gone up by more than 50%, a rate much higher than the cost of living.

Each year, our health care premium rates are established during negotiations between CalPERS and health care insurers like Kaiser and Blue Shield, a process which includes public discussion in May and a vote by the board in June.

In 2018, our members took action to put pressure on the CEOs of these extremely profitable insurance companies to tell them, "Don't Raise our Rates!" Through thousands of members sharing stories, sending letters and our strong presence on the CalPERS board, we were able to reduce out-of-control health care costs with many insurers.

Eight of 13 health care providers reduced their rates for 2019 and, as a result, most of the 96,000 state workers we represent enjoy reduced premium rates.

We're taking action again, and members are pressuring health care providers to stop putting profits before patients. California's working families deserve quality, affordable health care and together, we can tell wealthy insurance companies to do the right thing.



*"When health insurers raise our costs, they are costing working-class folks needed money for education, food, and housing.*

*Don't raise our rates!"*

– Nick Mannion

CCHCS, Coalinga

Send your letter to insurance CEOs today - it's easy online:

[seiu1000.org/dont-raise-our-rates](http://seiu1000.org/dont-raise-our-rates)

## Get engaged in the bargaining process



Stockton Town Hall, 3/28

### RSVP for a Town Hall

Town Hall locations, dates & times available online

[seiu1000.org/townhall-schedule](http://seiu1000.org/townhall-schedule)

RSVP online or by calling the Member Resource Center at

**866-471-SEIU (7348)**

### Take the next step: Fill out an online bargaining survey

Members: share more detail about what you'd like to see in the contract

[seiu1000.org](http://seiu1000.org)

# UNION INFORMATION

## Resource Center

Monday-Friday  
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.  
866.471.SEIU (7348)

## Website

[seiu1000.org](http://seiu1000.org)

## Connect with Local 1000

### Facebook

[facebook.com/seiu1000](https://facebook.com/seiu1000)

### YouTube

[youtube.com/seiu1000](https://youtube.com/seiu1000)

### Twitter

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## MEMBERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT THE LOTTERY LEADERS WORKING WITH MANAGEMENT TO IMPROVE WORKING CONDITIONS

Some long-awaited improvements in the working conditions and the management culture at the state lottery are becoming a reality after hard work by a dedicated group of member activists.

“We’re seeing the beginning of important changes in safety, in unfair management practices and bullying and respect,” said Paulina Vasquez, who works as a District Sales Representative in Modesto.

After years of bad treatment, filing grievances and even issuing an unfair labor practice, the Lottery agreed to form a Joint Labor Management Committee (JLMC) to address specifics earlier this year. And it’s going so well that the frequency of the meetings has increased from quarterly to monthly.

Key among the changes is a more dedicated approach to the safety of Lottery employees working in the field. They’re required to package thousands of dollars of “Scratcher” ticket returns at gas stations, convenience and liquor stores, with no real training on how to stay safe. In some cases, Lottery employees have been on-site when a retail location is robbed at gunpoint.

Now, as result of the JLMC, field representatives are receiving specific training from industry experts designed to increase an employee’s personal safety when confronted with a hazardous situation. New procedures to report, track and resolve safety issues are being discussed.

Repeated organizing, actions and pressure from Lottery employees forced improvements in the Lottery’s aging vehicle fleet. After members testified at a commission meeting that many of the Lottery vans were more than a decade old, some approaching 200,000 miles, the department announced that 104 new vehicles would soon be acquired.

Fair scheduling of sales routes was another issue brought forth by our union activists. With no policy in place, management made assignments without regard to seniority or where representatives lived and worked. Thanks to some meaningful discussions, Lottery management is looking into the practices and are fine tuning a new procedure.

Vasquez, whose leadership journey began seven years ago at the Lottery, credits the involvement of members and a statewide network of union stewards for the success. “When I came here, there were only two stewards, and now we have 14,” she says. “Now, there’s a strong, well-connected network of activists, and we’re staying connected while pushing for more progress.”



*Through the work of dedicated members, we're seeing improvements in safety, unfair management practices, bullying and respect."*

- Paulina Vasquez, District Sales Representative  
California State Lottery

**Questions about your membership status or contract rights?**

## Call the Local 1000 Member Resource Center



The Local 1000 Member Resource Center connects you with a well-trained, knowledgeable union representative who can answer questions about representation or other issues.

Representatives are well versed in state worker needs ranging from filing a grievance, to finding the address of a meeting, to learning about discounts and savings on theme park admissions and other benefits.

**866.471.SEIU (7348)**