

JUNE 4
2014

UNION UPDATE



Local 1000 endorses Theresa Taylor for CalPERS board

Long-time activist is committed to retirement security

Longtime Local 1000 DLC 786 president Theresa Taylor, who has been active in every major Local 1000 campaign in the past decade, has announced her candidacy for an open seat on the CalPERS Board of Administration.

“As a 20-year state employee, activist and member of Local 1000, I understand first-hand what it’s like to raise a family, send kids to college and build a career through the ups and downs of state service,” said Taylor, who works as a principal compliance representative at the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) in Sacramento. “I struggled through the furloughs and worried about my own retirement security and healthcare options, as I’ve watched my friends and family work later and later into life because they had no other choice. That’s why I decided to step up in our union—and it’s why I’m running to be your voice on CalPERS.”

“I want to make sure the stability and security we’ve worked so hard to earn will be there for our families when we need it most,” she added. “I have fought shoulder to shoulder with my fellow Local 1000 members to protect our retirement security, and I know our work won’t be done until all Californians have access to a secure retirement after a lifetime of work.”

Retirement Security Committee

Taylor is a member of Local 1000’s Retirement Security for All Committee, where her priorities have been “strengthening our pensions, strengthening Social Security and helping implement Secure Choice, which will help millions of working families save for retirement.”

She has also been active in her community and on issues supported by Local 1000 and our allies. In addition to participating in every recent contract and political campaign, Taylor has marched with activists



“I want to make sure the stability and security we’ve worked so hard to earn will be there for our families when we need it most.”

-Theresa Taylor for CalPERS

over income inequality, justice for low-paid workers and demanding transparency by Wall Street banks.

Experience in complex corporate finances

Taylor’s 20 years at FTB has given her financial experience that will help her protect the pensions and benefits of our members.

“I’ve combed through thousands of financial statements and balance sheets rooting out the hidden assets of California’s biggest tax debtors,” Taylor said. “My job requires the analysis of complex financial transactions to determine the facts and the truth. I’ll take that same approach when it comes to investing CalPERS assets, protecting your retirement security and keeping health care affordable.”

Taylor is running for a board position representing all active Local 1000 members working for the State of California. Ballots are scheduled to be mailed to voters on Aug. 29. CalPERS must receive ballots no later than Sept. 29 to be counted.

“Local 1000 and Theresa Taylor are fighting for a solution to our retirement crisis that protects the benefits we have earned, holds Wall Street accountable and measures up to

the basic American value that everyone who works hard and saves responsibly should be able to retire with dignity. That’s why it is so important that we elect Theresa Taylor to the CalPERS board.”



—Yvonne R. Walker
Local 1000 president



Secure Choice Retirement program draws national focus

Members show support through personal testimony

The Local 1000-backed retirement security for all efforts in California are drawing national attention as other states work to develop a plan to help avert a retirement crisis among private sector workers. Members of the Secure Choice Retirement Savings Investment Board, including Local 1000 President Yvonne R. Walker were briefed May 27 about how Maryland, Illinois and Connecticut have joined California and Oregon in adopting legislation to study setting up a private sector retirement savings plan.

“California is leading the way for the rest of the nation,” said Yvonne R. Walker, a member of California’s Secure Choice Retirement Board and Local 1000 president. “Other states are now looking to us for an example of how to build a system that works – a system that provides a real safety net for the millions of working people struggling to save for retirement.” Later this year, the Secure Choice board will conduct a feasibility study that will guide the launch of the program. The goal is to offer retirement savings options to more than six million Californians whose employers do not offer a plan.

Local 1000 members testify

The board heard testimony from two Local 1000 members whose family members were unable to set aside money for retirement and have no pension or 401(k) savings plans.

Sherri Bridgeforth testified how her grandmother, a home health care employee, worked until just before her death in her late 60s – when she became too ill to work. “She could never afford to retire,” Bridgeforth said. “I worry that others in my family will suffer the same fate because most jobs these days do not offer retirement plans.”

Charlene Leathers-Sibblis described her how her husband and her older brother have each found themselves nearing retirement age after a lifetime of work, with little or no savings.

“Two years ago my brother became seriously ill at a time when he had no medical insurance,” Leathers-Sibblis said. “It broke my heart to learn that whatever money he had set aside went to pay medical bills. He turns 62 in September. He has no retirement, no savings and a limited ability to work.

“We need to make it easy and safe for people to save money for retirement, a paycheck at a time throughout their working life.”

Grassroots effort brings out the vote

Tens of thousands of Local 1000 members—along with their neighbors, families and friends—made their way to the polls on June 3 to vote for leaders who will fight for working people and make the economy work for everyone, not just a select few.

in the hands of regular people,” said Yvonne R. Walker, Local 1000 president. “Our members stepped up to make politics work for our families and our communities.”

Up and down the state, hundreds of volunteers made phone calls and knocked on thousands of doors, informing voters about important issues in a series of competitive primary races.



Local 1000 members Jane Schafer-Kramer and Warren Burgess speak to a Davis voter about Assembly candidate Dan Wolk.

UNION INFORMATION

Resource Center

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

Website

seiu1000.org

Connect with Local 1000

Facebook
facebook.com/seiu1000

YouTube
youtube.com/seiu1000

Twitter
twitter.com/seiu1000

