



Communications Workers of America Local 6355

Missouri State Workers Union / Missouri Public Employees Union / United Foster Parents of Missouri

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May 31, 2018

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

The General Assembly has passed legislation to make all state employees "at will" employees able to be dismissed without having to show just cause and a paycheck "protection" bill that prevents workers dues being deducted from their paychecks. Both bills have been submitted for the Governor's signature. Our elected officials, with a giant push from the corporate elite, have found a way to cheat and insult public workers yet again.

Every year, CWA 6355 members fight the tough battle for fair and just treatment in the workplace, fair compensation and an adequate benefits package. Each year, our elected officials decide not to fully fund adequate raises and the resources to fully fund the state's step increase scale through the Merit System. Instead of working to find the resources to reward hard working state employees and to reduce high turnover rates while attracting new employees the General Assembly makes false claims. They actually claim that these paycheck "protection" and Merit rule elimination bills will do those things. We know they have really chosen to strip rights away from public employees like us while also trying to cripple the organization we have chosen to be our collective voice. They have made it nearly impossible to continue to have a contract under the new restrictive law.

We as union members must show elected officials we are serious about the demands we are making for essential basic needs. The time is here where everyone needs to choose to fight for our dignity, rights and to have a voice on the job. We can beat these attacks. To do this, it will take all of us working together. We all must do everything we can to make sure we are doing our part to keep our union CWA Strong. We have to make major decisions about how we will respond to these legislative attacks and prepare ourselves to do things differently in order to win.

Here are things you can do to continue our fight right now:

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- Complete your Unbreakable card
Union members who have not completed their unbreakable card will lose their membership in CWA when these bills go into effect.

Our opponents are counting on the restrictions they have put in place to block us from supporting the union through payroll deduction of dues to break us - we can't let them do that.

- Make sure coworkers have completed their Unbreakable card
Every state worker is being harmed right now by this legislative attack
Every state worker needs to be in this fight
- Commit to informing coworkers, family members, friends and neighbors of our efforts and needs in the workplace
- Participate in union meetings and stay informed about union actions for you workplace
- RSVP for the tele-town hall on June 14, 2018 from 6:00PM to 7:30PM.
This call is for all union members to further plan our strategy to fight back and win and to review the current situation. Please send me an email at npickens@cwa-mswu.org to RSVP.
- Stay engaged
Check out our website at www.cwa6355.org for information about other union actions in your area

Make sure that CWA has your most up to date mailing address, email and cell phone number

Like our CWA 6355 page on facebook

Contact a union organizer for help setting up an event in your area
- Contribute to the Missouri State Workers Union political action fund
Just four more votes in the Missouri Senate could have stopped these bills from becoming law

We have an opportunity in November to change the dynamics of our state legislature with candidates who will support public employees and with the CLEAN initiative

Our work as state employees or as union members has never been easy. But, together, we can win. Please reach out to the Union via email, phone or through social media.

In solidarity,



Natashia Pickens, President