



News

September 2022

Local 3634

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California Legislative News:

The following information is from Brother Christoph Mair, our AFSCME California Legislative and Political Action Representative in Sacramento

AFSCME's sponsored bill, [AB 2524](#) (Kalra) has advanced to the Senate Floor. This bill allows bargaining units at Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority to move to the Public Employment Relations Board for unfair practice complaints. VTA will join Sac RT, BART, OCTA and LA Metro.

[AB 2441](#) (Kalra) has advanced to the Senate Floor. This bill requires public transit employers to bargain the impacts of new transit technology, including autonomous vehicles and help kiosks. Transit districts must notify 12 months ahead of deploying technology that would eat into work currently done by union workers. Unions can then request to meet and confer.

Committees have wrapped up for the year and through August 31, there were only floor session activity. While there is the likelihood that some new bills will appear (as "gut and amends"), the Legislative session is largely coming to a close. The Governor has 10 days to sign or veto bills that he received before August 31; for anything received after August 31 (which will be most bills), he has until September 30 to sign or veto.

ACTION
CHANGES
THINGS

HR 43: Violence and Intimidation Prevention

Sisters and Brothers

Periodically the Union provides information in our newsletters regarding multiple MTA HR policies. Our purpose for doing so is to make you aware of policies that affect us in the workplace and as Supervisors it is our responsibilities to know them. It is part of your job. I am asking of you to please read HR policy 43 (**Specifically Section 3.0: Definition of Terms**) and when you finish, please read it again. For quite some time, we as Union officials have been placed in some very difficult positions in our attempt to provide solid representation to the members who have unfortunately been on the receiving end of discipline because of hostile, disruptive and violent behavior they have displayed in the workplace.

Our society today is very volatile, and that tension has parlayed into the workplace and unfortunately it has resulted in tragedy and a loss of lives. We as a Union have to be brutally honest when it comes to this subject. Verbal abuse, physically confronting and placing your hands on other employees and destroying company property and equipment is not acceptable behavior. Whatever is happening away from work that is creating problems for you, please reach out and get some help to avoid bringing that conflict into the workplace. If you are experiencing tension and anger in the workplace as a result of certain type of interactions with your peers, your management team or those you supervise, you are going to have to find alternative ways to maintain your composure and professionalism and seek out help (EAP).

If you can't do this, you may wind up being placed in a situation where the company may discipline you for your behavior, place you under a fit for duty assessment related to your conduct or worse case terminate you. None of us want that so we encourage you to seek out the assistance that you need.

Respectfully,

Brother Frank Forde – Executive Board – Bus Maintenance
Brother Al Cromer – President

AFSCME Local 3634

Me Too Update

On Friday August 26th, Recording Secretary Veronica Gunn sent an official request to Metro to discuss the MeToo Pandemic compensation for AFSCME relevant to the SMART contract. We have a meeting scheduled with the agency to discuss by the second week of September.

We will update you in real-time.





CalPERS Retirement Workshop Reminder

Our Union Local in collaboration with CalPERS has scheduled a retirement workshop for September 29th from 4p-6p.

For members who are interested and wish to RSVP, **please provide us with your full legal name, date of birth and either your CalPERS ID or the last four numbers of your SSN.** This information will be needed by September 22nd which will allow the information provided to us to be submitted to the agency in time for them to prepare for the workshop. Once the information has been submitted and processed, a virtual link will be provided to all who have signed up.

Thank You

AFSCME Local 3634 Executive Board



States with Strongest Union Membership: Click on link below.

[These States Have America's Strongest Unions \(yahoo.com\)](#)

Food Distribution Reminder

On September 20th, the Local will be assisting the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor Community Services Department with their food prep and distribution in the City of Bell. Time will be from 8am to 1pm.

If interested please send an email to the local before September 13th.



Local 3634 will host a women's empowerment luncheon on October 8, 2022, at the DoubleTree Downtown Los Angeles. The mission is to connect like-minded women, share experiences, gain knowledge, and get FIRED UP about collective bargaining. Labor unions are important for creating opportunities for growth in the workplace, unionized women make an average of 30% more per week than non-unionized women, unions level the playing field between women and their male counterparts, as well as create economic security, and improve our quality of life at retirement. RSVP by September 16, 2022. First come first serve!!!!

A flyer will be drafted and distributed. If you're interested, please contact the local via email

L3634@afscme36.org

Teachers' union reduce teacher stress.

<https://www.epi.org/blog/teachers-unions-reduce-teacher-stress-anti-union-laws-significantly-increase-it/>

AFSCME BENEFITS INFORMATION

MEDICAL, PENSION and TOWP

Medical is Nicole Patino: Patinoni@metro.net

PERS Contact MTA: Email is Nixon@metro.net

TOWP Contact: hriadmin@metro.net



Union Difference

Life is better in a union. Having a voice on the job means better pay, better health care, a more secure retirement, and so much more. It means having a say in safety, staffing, and other principal issues that help AFSCME members do their jobs and keep America running.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS:

Please make sure to update your personal contact information including your alternate contacts with Metro. It is especially important in times of emergencies that the employer may need to communicate at once, with you or your family for work and personal reasons.

Prosperity, Peace, and Good Health!!!

