

Greetings 3937! This week we have news from the Capitol, words from our VP, and several upcoming events. Stay cool and enjoy the long Memorial Day weekend!

AFSCME members cheered late Sunday night as Minnesota Legislators passed the Omnibus Pension Bill, which had passed unanimously in every committee on its way to the House floor.

The House passed the Omnibus Pension Bill 131-0 and then the Senate (which passed the bill two months ago) quickly and unanimously signed off on some minor amendments. The bill now goes to Gov. Dayton for his signature.

House Speaker Kurt Daudt waited to take up pensions until just before midnight as the clock ticked down on the final few minutes of the legislative session.

The pension reform bill, which AFSCME and numerous public sector unions supported, was three years in the making. It will immediately save \$3.4 billion and fully fund our pension systems within 30 years.

It includes shared sacrifice and shared responsibility from the state, employer, employee and retirees. The bill:

Increases the employer and employee contribution

Includes new state funding

Reduces COLAs

Reduces the assumed rate of return from 8 percent to 7.5 percent

Thank you to all the workers and retirees who have tirelessly shown up at the Capitol, called lawmakers and put

on pressure. Your efforts have made retirements secure and dignified for decades to come!

~from Council 5

I AM 2018 & The Poor People's Campaign

In 1968, Martin Luther King called for a "Revolution of Values" ; a nationwide Poor People's Campaign to create a more just, equitable, participatory world and to end racism, poverty, environmental degradation and militarism..Events began May 13, but there are more to come. AFSCME International President Lee Saunders is urging us to participate.

Tuesday, May 29- The War Economy: [MN PPC/A Rally for a Peace Economy that Values all of Humanity](#)

Monday, June 4- Ecological Devastation and the Right Health

Monday, June 11- Everybody's Got the Right to Live: Education, Jobs, Income and Housing

Monday, June 18- A New and Unsettling Force

Saturday, June 23- Global Day of Solidarity

You can follow [the Minnesota Poor People's Campaign on Facebook](#) to get more detail on the June events once they are known.

VP Corner

Good Afternoon, Local 3937:

This week the Supreme Court ruled against employees and in favor of employers. This

ruling states that “employers have the right to insist that labor disputes get resolved individually, rather than allowing workers to join together in class-action lawsuits.” Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg says in her dissent, “When workers charge their employers with unlawful conduct — in this case, violations of laws governing wages earned and hours worked — there is strength in numbers.” As a result of the ruling, she said, “there will be huge under-enforcement of federal and state statutes designed to advance the well-being of vulnerable workers.”

Later this summer there is another labor related Supreme Court case that will be even worse. This one is aimed directly at us, Janus v. AFSCME. This case is going to make our members pay to represent non-members in negotiations and in other Local business. And, I hate to say it, but that ruling is likely to go against us as well. This ruling will be nation-wide and labor-wide; we will all be like Wisconsin whose wages and standards have gone downhill.

Our rights are under attack, and it’s going to get worse before it gets better.

The only way to fight back is to fight back together. We are mobilizing, we are organizing, and we are stronger together. Please join us. There is a list of volunteer opportunities with the local on our website; we will be coming to many parts of the Twin Cities campuses to talk about negotiations-. Get involved! Come to a meeting! Help us fight back!

In Solidarity,

Robert Francis
Vice-President of Organizing
AFSCME Local 3937

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2018/05/21/supreme-court-backs-employers-over-workers/355923002/>

[Ian Millhiser's analysis in Think Progress](#)

<https://www.afscme.org/now/janus-for-leaders>

Sign the petition to demand Congress restore workers' rights!

VOTE!

Last reminder to vote
in our local's
presidential election!
Ballots must be at
Council 5 by May
29. [Candidate
statements](#) can be
found on our web
site.

AFSCME Women's Leadership Academy

Interested in
strengthening leadership skills
and activism and gaining a
deeper understanding of the
issues that affect working
women? Sign up for
the AFSCME Women's
Leadership Academy Online
today
at www.afscme.org/WLAO.

A new name to go with our new look

The newsletter committee would like to hear your ideas for a new name for this publication. Send your thoughts to secretary3937@gmail.com Or if you really like keeping Tech Talk 3.0, let us know that, too!

Remember every Friday is a new opportunity to show your support for the union with a little bit of fun. Wear something green this Friday! Take a selfie or have a friend take a picture and post it to our [Facebook event](#), the most interesting or creative selfie will win a prize! Show us your green socks, shirts, pants, ties, lanyards, lipstick, earrings, or scarves!

Save The Date

Steward meeting

- 2nd Wednesdays: June 13th

Organizing meeting

- 3rd Wednesdays: June 20th

Membership meeting

- 4th Wednesdays: June 27th (E-board meeting at 5:15 pm immediately followed by membership meeting)

Special Membership meeting (for the Election Committee to officially report the results of the Local's Officer and Executive Board elections.)

Wednesday, May 30th

All at 5:30pm in Suite 356

[312 Central Avenue SE,](#)

[Minneapolis, MN 55414](#)



Our home page has more information and resources such as steward contact information. Find the most current version of our contract here.

Like us on Facebook and/or follow us on Twitter, we post a variety of labor related items daily as well as breaking news that affects us.

submitted in solidarity by AFSCME Local 3937 leadership, edited by Nicole Masika, secretary