



Our Work Makes California Work

TEAMSTERS

L O C A L 2 0 1 0

Dear UC and CSU Teamsters:

You may have heard that some billionaires and their corporate lawyers have filed a lawsuit attacking public workers and our Unions, and that the Supreme Court will review the case this year. It's called the Janus case and if you think it has no impact on you and your family, think again.

These corporate interests aim to weaken our Unions so they can lower our wages and benefits, plain and simple. The time for us to come together to protect our rights is now.

Their strategy is simple but insidious. The case would take away fair share rights, so that Union members would be forced to pay for the representation of those who refuse to kick in their fair share to support the work of the Union. As you know, the Union is nothing more than all the workers standing together so we can have the power to win fair treatment at work. So their goal is to divide us against each other, and reduce our resources, so that we will be unable to defend ourselves against attacks on our wages and benefits.

If you're unsure of their game plan, see what they did in Wisconsin. Five years ago, Gov. Scott Walker signed a bill taking away Union rights for public workers. Union membership declined, and since then wages and benefits of public workers in Wisconsin were lowered by 8-10 percent. A similar story played out in Iowa, Florida and other states.

Average wages in states where unions do not have fair share rights are 22% less than those in free bargaining states, 22% less people have health insurance, and the rate of workplace deaths is 49% higher. The Janus case is aimed at spreading this disaster to public workers throughout the nation, including here in California at UC and CSU.

They want to take us back to the bad old days before Unions, when there was no middle class, when working-class jobs meant a life of poverty, when workers had no rights and bosses had all the power.

But we are not going back to those days. Because no power on earth – not the Supreme Court, not all the billionaires and corporate lawyers – can stop us from standing together in our Union if we decide to do it.

In Teamsters Local 2010, we have been hard at work building member power, so we will be

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ready to face these challenges and continue to win fair contracts. Already nearly 10,000 Local 2010 members have signed the Member Power Form, pledging to stand together with our co-workers in the Union through the life of the current contract. We have raised our union membership from 29% four years ago to 80% today. And we have organized over 2,500 new workers into the Union, increasing our strength dramatically.

Our goal is to reach 90% membership by June of next year, when the Janus case is likely to come down, and to have all members commit to standing together in the Union, by signing the member power form. If we succeed, if we continue to stand together as Teamsters, we will be strong and our wages and benefits will be protected.

The time is now for every Teamster to take a stand for our families and our future. Make sure that you and all of your co-workers have signed the Member Power Form. Get involved in your Union, educate your coworkers families about the importance of unions and the attacks against working families posed by the Janus case. Sign up for one of our trainings and go to the Statewide Council and Membership Meeting on December 9, 2017 to get more informed.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Rabinowitz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jason Rabinowitz
Secretary-Treasurer
Teamsters Local 2010