



Report from Olympia no.3

February 21, 2014

Teamsters Local 117

News for Teamsters 117 - 2014 Legislative Session in Olympia



Teamsters Local 117: 14675 Interurban Ave. S, Suite 307 • Tukwila, WA 98168 (206) 441-4860 • www.teamsters117.org

ACTION NEEDED ON PAID SICK DAYS!

HB1313 is scheduled to be heard in Committee on Feb. 26



Teamsters Local 117 helped pass a Paid Sick Days Ordinance in Seattle in 2011.

We are excited to announce that the **Senate Commerce and Labor** committee has scheduled a hearing for **Paid Sick and Safe Days (HB 1313)** on Wednesday, February 26th at 1:30 p.m.

Thanks to your emails and phone calls, the bill passed out of the House of Representatives on January 29. Now, HB 1313 faces a tough fight in the Senate. We must do all we can if Paid Sick Days is going to make it out of committee.

Here's what you can do right now:

1. Sign the Paid Sick Days Action Alert at http://action.momsrising.org/letter/paidsickdays_WA_senate/.
2. Contact key members of the Senate Commerce and Labor committee and tell them to pass the bill:

Curtis King R 14th
curtis.king@leg.wa.gov

(360) 786-7626

Janea Holmquist Newbry, Chair R 13th
janea.holmquistnewbry@leg.wa.gov
(360) 786-7624

John Braun R 20th
john.braun@leg.wa.gov
(360) 786-7638

Mike Hewitt R 16th
mike.hewitt@leg.wa.gov
360 786-7630

3. If you live in the 13th, 14th, 15th and 20th legislative districts, your support is especially important!

Paid Sick Days will ensure people can care for their health needs without losing a day's wages or their job and promotes healthy business by preventing the spread of food-borne disease and boosting employee morale and productivity. ●

UNCERTAINTY OVER A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

DOC funding hangs in the balance

When Governor Inslee released his supplemental budget proposal late last year, he included \$5.1 million for the opening of the 256-bed medium security unit at WSP to meet the demands of a rising male offender caseload and to reduce prison overcrowding.

In the supplemental capital budget, Inslee proposed \$1.8 million to complete redesign studies on capacity issues for male and female prison populations.

With the recent revenue forecast showing that revenues are flat, securing the additional funding for DOC may be a challenge, but we are continuing to reach out to legislators on both sides of the aisle.

Your Lobbyist, Teresita Torres, has been meeting with key decision makers to urge them to support the Governor's supplemental budget proposals.

At our second Lobby Day on February 20, members spoke with their legislators about the need to secure the funding: "We need more funding for DOC," said Roswitha Preston a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) at Clallam Bay Corrections Center. "Safety is still a major issue in our prisons." ●

Reduce Prison Overcrowding!

Call the legislative hotline in Olympia at 1-800-562-6000 and tell your legislators to 1) pass a supplemental budget; and 2) make sure that the Governor's appropriation items for DOC are included in the final budget.

Olympia News Ticker

A day-by-day account of developments during the 2014 legislative session

Jan. 23 - Legislators introduce a bill that would raise the state's minimum wage to \$12/hr.

Jan. 28 - Over 70 Local 117 members participate in our first Teamsters 117 Lobby Day of the 2014 legislative session.

Jan. 29 - The House of Representatives passes the paid sick leave bill (HB 1313) by a vote of 52-45.

Jan. 29 - The State Senate passes a structured settlement bill that would harm our current workers' comp. system (ESSB 5127) on a vote of 27-22.

Jan. 31 - The DREAM Act passes the Senate by a vote of 35-10.

Feb. 7 - Our Teamster taxi bill (HB 2152) that would allow taxi cab operators the right to opt into the State L&I system passes out of the House on a vote of 93-1.

Feb. 11-14 - The House passes a package of four bills protecting workers against wage theft (HB 2331, HB 2332, HB 2333, HB 2334).

Feb. 18 - Today is cutoff for non-budgetary policy bills that didn't pass the house of origin.

Feb. 18 - The DREAM Act (SB 6523) passes the House by a vote of 75-22-1.

Feb. 19 - Teamster taxi drivers testify before the Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor in support of our L&I bill (HB 2152).

Feb. 20 - Local 117 members and staff participate in the Washington State Labor Council's legislative lobbying day.

Feb. 20 - Together with members from Teamster Locals across the State, Local 117 members participated in our second lobby day of the 2014 legislative session.

Feb. 21-22 - Many legislators are holding town hall meetings in their districts this weekend. Call the legislative hotline at 1-800-562-6000 for more information. ●

TEAMSTERS BACK IN OLYMPIA, MAKING THEIR VOICES HEARD

Dozens of Teamsters descend on Olympia for our second Lobby Day



Union members from Teamster Locals across the state visited the State Capitol on February 20.

Teamsters 117 was back in Olympia on February 20 to speak out in support of issues that are important to working families. Together with members of several other Teamster Locals, Local 117 members met with their legislators to discuss raising the minimum wage, passing a paid sick days bill, and protecting workers against wage theft.

"This is my second Teamster Lobby Day, and I had a lot of fun the first time," said Jess Turney, a 2-year Local 117 member at Fisheries Supply in Seattle. "I think the strength of the Teamsters is activism and the membership has to participate in order for the Union to be strong and for us to accomplish our goals."

Local 117 members continued to lobby their State Senators on a bill (HB 2152) that would allow Teamster taxi drivers the choice of whether to participate in the State's Labor & Industries system. On February 7, the bill passed out of the House by a vote of 93-1, and it is now working its way through the Senate.

Members also discussed the need to alleviate prison overcrowding and to address other safety and security-related issues for our state's correctional employees.

The event was organized by the Joint Council of Teamsters 28, an organization of 12 Teamster Locals in Washington, Alaska, and Northern Idaho. ●

Shared Prosperity: Rebuilding the Middle Class **Call the Legislative Hotline at 1-800-562-6000 now!**

On February 20, Teamsters from across the state met with their legislators to promote a shared prosperity agenda that embraces the values of Washington's working families and aims at rebuilding the middle class. The budget and policy goals include:

- **Ending wage and revenue theft;**
- **Raising the minimum wage;**
- **Passing a paid sick days bill;**
- **Passing a transportation revenue package.**

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! Call the legislative hotline in Olympia at 1-800-562-6000 and tell your State Senator that working families care about these issues.