

1245

International Brotherhood
Of Electrical Workers
Local 1245, AFL-CIO
October 1996
Vol. XLV No. 10



UTILITY REPORTER

Your Vote Counts
See Page 3



Bill Clinton

His record:

- Signed into law a bill to increase federal minimum wage by 90 cents.
- Signed the Family and Medical Leave Act, which provides workers with unpaid leave during family medical emergencies.
- Vetoed the TEAM Act, which tried to legalize company unions.
- Opposes "Right to Work (for Less)" legislation.
- Supported Workplace Fairness Act. When bill was filibustered in Senate, Clinton signed executive order banning use of federal contractors who have employed "replacement" workers.
- Vetoed Dole-Gingrich budget bill that contained massive cuts in Medicare, education, & workplace safety.
- Has threatened to veto any bill that weakens prevailing wage standards for construction workers.
- Supports continued funding for college student loan program, elementary & secondary education, & Head Start for pre-schoolers.
- Opposes efforts to abolish overtime pay after 40 hours.

Which Way



America?

★ ★ Special Election Issue ★ ★

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Pages 5-7 | The Issues: What's at Stake for Working People? |
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Bob Dole

His record:

- Opposed the bill to increase federal minimum wage by 90 cents.
- Opposed the Family and Medical Leave Act.
- Supported the TEAM Act, which would have legalized company unions.
- Favors "Right to Work (for Less)" legislation, which would severely weaken the labor movement.
- Orchestrated Senate filibuster in 1993 that killed Workplace Fairness Act, a bill that would have banned employers from hiring permanent replacements of strikers.
- Attempted to cut Medicare by \$270 billion and Medicaid by \$170 billion in order to give tax breaks to big business and the wealthy.
- Supported legislation to repeal prevailing wage standards for construction workers.
- Tried to cut student loan program and to institute voucher system for school choice that threatens to undermine public education.
- Refuses to commit to supporting overtime pay after 40 hours.

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Workers here and abroad

Rolling the union on...

Helping Out: ConAgra Inc. has discovered a way to reduce absenteeism caused by an employee's need to take care of a sick relative: the company sends a visiting nurse to the employee's house for up to 12 hours to take care of a sick child or elder, the Wall Street Journal reported.

Job Protection: United Auto Workers members were slated to vote Sept. 29 on a three-year contract with Ford Motor Co. that includes a guaranteed employment floor of 95% of the current number of UAW-represented jobs.

"Mean spirited": A K-Mart worker fired for allegedly stealing potato chips from her employer won \$1.5 million when the jury found K-Mart's conduct as "mean-

spirited" and the worker's treatment as "outrageous." Patricia Rue sued for defamation of character because her boss told her co-workers that she had stolen the chips, the Wall Street Journal reported. The verdict is being appealed.

I Spy: More than 20 million workers now have their computer files, voice mail, or e-mail searched by their bosses, the American Civil Liberties Union estimates. Nearly one-third of newly hired employees undergo drug testing.

Union? You Bet! Locals of the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees union and the Service Employees union are working together to organize casino workers on the Admiral riverboat in St. Louis. The National Labor Relations Board invalidated one union election and ordered a new one after finding that management violated labor laws.

Off the Clock: Current and former employees of Albertson's grocery chain filed a class-action lawsuit seeking back pay for work they performed off the clock.

Utility Reporter wins top prize

The Utility Reporter took first place for Best Feature Story of 1995 in national competition sponsored by the International Labor Communications Association (ILCA).

"PG&E's Disaster" published in February 1995, examined how downsizing hampered PG&E's response to the storm of January 1995. The article appeared about three months prior to the creation of the current partnership relationship between Local 1245 and PG&E.

"PG&E's Disaster" was one of 1,549 entries in the competition. The story was written by Communications Director Eric Wolfe. The Utility Reporter's Executive Editor is Jack McNally.

The suit, filed with the help of the Food and Commercial Workers, claims Albertson's threatens to fire employees who complain about working off the clock and fails to permit rest breaks on company time.

Pay Attention: More than 10,000 trade unionists marched to the Michigan state capital building in Lansing to urge voters to register to vote. The unionists called on elected officials to pay attention to the interests of working families.

Lockout Ends: The lockout of 1200 Paperworkers (UPIU) at the Trailmobile factory in Charleston, Ill., ended after five months when the workers ratified a new three-year contract providing 58-cent-

an-hour increases and none of the concessions the company had been demanding. The union had protested the lockout with a worldwide "corporate campaign" focusing on the favor the lockout wreaked on the workers and their families.

Next Generation: The debate over the minimum wage "seems completely wrongheaded to me. We ought to be talking about a living wage, not just a minimum wage."—Ronald Reagan Jr., quoted in the San Francisco Chronicle.

**Vote
Nov. 5!**

APPOINTMENTS

MODESTO IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Modesto I.D. Negotiating Committee

Ken Raven
Dave Pittman
Don Ludlow
Kevin Jackson
Harvey Frantz
Forrest Davisson
Steve Auldridge

CONFERENCES, CONVENTIONS, COMMITTEES

Local 1245 Safety Committee

Billy Bell
James Gray
Robert Bustamante

CLUW National Executive Board Meeting

Dorothy Fortier
Kathy Tindall

9th District Inside/Outside Construction Organizing Meeting

Jack McNally
Rich Dunkin

California State Association of Electrical Workers Fall Meeting

Jack McNally
Rich Dunkin
Art Murray



PRESIDENT SIGNS WAGE HIKE

President Bill Clinton signed the federal minimum wage increase, witnessed by two dozen low-wage workers and their families, along with AFL-CIO President John Sweeney, Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), Vice President Al Gore, and Labor Secretary Robert Reich.



THE WINNER
Jean Slagter (center), winner of the 1996 Al Sandoval Memorial Competitive Scholarship, accepts award from Business Manager Jack McNally (left). Accompanying Slagter was her mother, Melinda Price. (Photo: Eric Wolfe)

Preserve the eight-hour day

Editor's note: The following essay by Jean M. Slagter won the 1996 Al Sandoval Memorial Competitive Scholarship sponsored by Local 1245. Slagter is the daughter of Frederik Slagter, a Local 1245 member at Merced Irrigation District, and Melinda Price.

By Jean M. Slagter

Since the twelfth century, groups of laborers and craftsmen have been uniting to promote their trade and well-being. This tradition traveled to the New World along with the settlers of the "soon" to be United States of America. Unions developed around major cities such as Boston and Philadelphia, but never gained great recognition until the Civil War era and after, when they began to proliferate rapidly along with the swiftly industrializing nation.

Working conditions at this period of time were at best squalid, with problems such as poor ventilation and lighting, but, most notably, the length of the working day. Shifts ranged from 12 to 16 hours per day (and longer), six and seven days per week. As employment in these jobs was increasing, so was membership in labor unions. However, these unions did not set viable goals, and soon reached a period of decline.

But, in December of 1886, the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions of the United States and

Canada, along with the Knights of Labor, established the American Federation of Labor, led by Samuel Gompers. This was the first nationwide union that did not promote major reforms, but adopted realistic goals of obtaining higher wages and regulating the workday.

These ideas about a proper workplace were not entirely new, but stemmed from the enlightenment beliefs of the 1700s of liberty and equality, which were the foundation of the United States. Liberty, the idea that each individual has the freedom to choose his/her responsibilities and goals, is related to all aspects of this nation, including that Americans have the right to work. Equality, another concept at the base of American ideology, involves "equal" qualities of lifestyle and that each citizen has certain rights that must be constantly safeguarded. Aside from basic rights as citizens, this too includes the protection of one's job.

The right to work was further backed by Franklin Delano Roosevelt in his so-called "Second Bill of Rights" speech, given in 1944. Among the rights he

listed were the right to a useful job that would provide adequate support for the necessities of life. As opposed to the previous century's problems of excessive work, workers were now concerned with the lack of jobs and working hours. Later, through Roosevelt's "New Deal", great strides were made for workers that are still in effect today. One of the most highly regarded of these privileges today is the eight-hour workday.

In spite of these and other related accomplishments, there are major current obstacles to the rights of workers. Multinational corporations and corporate downsizing have caused both job and wage cuts. These jobs are being lost to foreign countries and computers, leaving Americans out of work. For more than two centuries, however, Americans have supported the right to a reasonable job.

The eight-hour workday, which millions have fought for, should not be abolished, but should be preserved in the tradition of both liberty and equality, the same dreams that inspired the creation of this nation.

The eight-hour workday, which millions have fought for, should not be abolished, but should be preserved in the tradition of both liberty and equality, the same dreams that inspired the creation of this nation.

POINT OF VIEW

History proves one vote does make a difference

Jack McNally, IBEW 1245 Business Manager

It's easy to get the impression that one individual makes little difference in today's world. No matter what we do, things will go on pretty much as before, right?

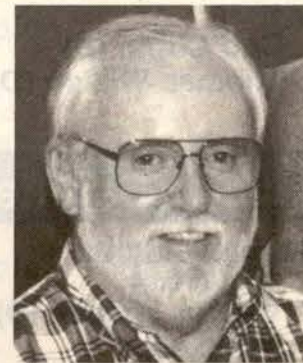
Not really. It may be comforting to think that we aren't responsible for what happens in the world because there's nothing we can do anyway. But it's a false picture of reality.

In a democracy like ours, individuals still chart the course taken by their government. In every election, individuals choose between competing visions of the future at the city, county, state and national levels. Sometimes there is little difference between the candidates, but more often there are real differences that have real consequences for our lives. When Candidate "X" wants to abolish overtime pay and Candidate "Y" wants to preserve it, for example, this is an important distinction as far as working people are concerned.

Some people realize there are important differences between candidates, but still take the attitude that one vote just doesn't make a difference. History shows, however, that one vote sometimes decides elections.

• In the 1829 election for the US House of Representatives in Kentucky's 2nd District, Jackson Democrat Nicholas Coleman defeated National Republican Adam Beatty 2,520 to 2,519.

• In the 1847 election for the U.S. House of Representatives in Indiana's 6th District, Whig candidate George G. Dunn defeated Democratic candidate David M. Dobson 7,455 to 7,454. Also in 1847, Whig Thomas S. Flournoy de-



feated a Democratic candidate named Treadway 650 to 649 in the race for the U.S. House of Representatives in the 3rd District of Virginia.

• In the 1882 election for U.S. House of Representatives in the 1st District of Virginia, Readjuster Robert M. Mayo defeated Democrat George T. Garrison 10,505 to 10,504.

Or consider this more recent, non-federal election.

• In 1977, Vermont State Representative Sydney Nixon was seated as an apparent one vote winner, 570 to 569. Mr. Nixon resigned when the State House determined, after a recount, that he had lost to Robert Emond, 572 to 571.

In these elections, one person's vote made the difference. In many others, just a handful of people made the difference by taking time to show up on election day and voting for the candidate who best represented their interests.

Many of the races in next month's election are currently too close to call. The August, September, and October issues of the Utility Reporter have provided very specific information about where candidates stand on key workplace and economic issues. The rest is up to you.

State of Nevada Elections: Local 1245 endorsements

U.S. Congress

District

1. Bob Coffin (D)
2. Thomas Wilson (D)

Nevada Senate

South Senate Districts

3. Clark County:
Valerie Wiener (D)
4. Clark County:
Joe Neal (D)
5. Clark County:
Steve Sisolak (D)
7. Clark County:
Dina Titus (D)

North Senate Districts

3. Washoe County:
No Endorsement

Central Nevada District

No Endorsement

Northern Nevada

No Endorsement

Nevada Assembly

District

1. Tom Collins (D)
2. No Endorsement
3. No Endorsement
4. No Endorsement
5. No Endorsement
6. Wendell Williams (D)
7. Morris Arberry (D)
8. Barbara Buckley (D)
9. Chris Giunchigliani (D)

10. David Goldwater (D)
11. Douglas Bache (D)
12. Genie Orenschall (D)
13. John Lowes (D)
14. Ellen Koivisto (D)
15. No Endorsement
16. Dario Herrera (D)
17. Bob Price (D)
18. Mark Manendo (D)
19. Sandra Krenzer (D)
20. No Endorsement
21. No Endorsement
22. Gene Segerblom (D)
23. Richard Perkins (D)
24. Vivian Freeman (D)
25. No Endorsement
26. No Endorsement
27. Bonnie Shultz (D)
28. Vonne Chowning (D)
29. No Endorsement
30. Jan Evans (D)
31. Bernie Anderson (D)
32. Galen Mitchell (R)
Gail Scalzi (D)
33. Mike Smith (D)
34. No Endorsement
35. Marcia de Braga (D)
36. Roy Neighbors (D)
37. No Endorsement
38. Joe Dini (D)
39. No Endorsement
40. No Endorsement
41. No Endorsement
42. Harry Mortensen (D)

Nev. Supreme Court

Cliff Young
Bill Maupin



Vote Nov. 5!

Local 1245 unit chairman runs for school board in San Jose

Bill Brill, chair of the Local 1245 unit in San Jose, is making a bid for a seat on the County Board of Education.

Brill, a meter reader, is a 16-year member of Local 1245. In addition to serving as unit chair, Brill is a member of the Executive Board of the Central Labor Council in the San Jose area and a member of San Jose's Civil Service Commission. He also serves as President of the

Board of the Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition and is President of the Board of the East Valley Community Clinic.

Brill is running for the seat in Trustee Area 4. This district covers all of the San Jose Unified School District. Brill's candidacy is endorsed by IBEW Local 1245, Service Employees Local 715, Mayor Susan Hammer, and Amy Dean, CEO of the South Bay AFL-CIO.

Speak Your Mind:

VOTE!

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building a
better future.

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T

The Party's Over

he eight-hour day.
Overtime wages.

Health and safety standards.
Decent jobs at decent wages.

These are some of the things that unions helped achieve, providing California working people with a decent standard of living and dignity on the job.

But the party's over. In the California legislature, people we elected to political office are trying to take away everything unions have achieved for working people. It's no longer enough just to pay dues. It's time to pay attention.

Forget the Democrats. Forget the Republicans. Forget the conservatives, the liberals, the independents. Forget all the labels that divide us. It's time to talk about actual legislators and the things they have actually done -- either for us, or to us.

This month, the Utility Reporter presents candidates for California Assembly and where they stand on key issues. Issues like overtime, workplace safety, and raising the minimum wage.

The threat to our income and our living standards is real. The attack is well underway, as the following pages will show. The only question remaining is:

What are we going to do about it?

IBEW Local 1245 Candidate Survey Vote November 5, 1996

CANDIDATES FOR CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY

Pages 6-7 The Issues:
What's at Stake for Working People?

Page 8 Map of California Assembly Districts:
Who Represents You in the State Assembly?

Pages 9-16, The Candidates:
& 21-24 Where Do They Stand?

Key to Symbols



Candidate Supports Working People on the Issue



Candidate Against Working People on the Issue



Candidate Refused to Take a Stand (Refused to Respond to Survey)



Candidate Responded to Survey, but Had No Position on This Issue

Positions based on voting record and/or candidates' written response to Local 1245 Issue Survey. Candidates who refused to respond to the survey were awarded the "Chicken" symbol.

Other Election Features:

Page 4 Local 1245 Endorsements: Nevada Elections
Page 17: Retirees, Future Retirees & Proposition 211
Pages 18-19: Which Way America?—Clinton vs. Dole
Page 20: Minimum Wage, Tax Fairness, Civil Rights
Page 24: Local 1245 Endorsements: California Elections

Preserving overtime wage standards

Premium pay for overtime work is one of the principal achievements of the American labor movement. However, overtime pay came under direct attack in the California Legislature this year. The future of overtime pay is directly tied to the outcome of the November elections.

How close did California workers come to losing overtime pay this year? Damn close. The California Assembly voted to repeal the eight-hour day, but pro-labor leaders in the California Senate blocked the bill.

What would life be like without overtime protection? If overtime pay were eliminated in manufacturing, it would amount to an average pay cut of 18%, more than \$5,000 a year. For many Local 1245 members, who are used to a lot of overtime, the amount of lost wages would be much higher. Picture working 30 consecutive hours in a winter storm and getting paid straight time for the whole thing. Do the math. It's not pretty.

However, employers can do the same math. When they look at repealing overtime, they see less money paid out in wages, more money left for profits.

It's not new math, and it's not a new issue in the American workplace. Over a century ago, American workers fought and died in the streets for the eight-hour day. Tired of being forced to work 12, 14 and even more hours a day, they

The Key Bill: A.B. 398

rose up in protest. Their battle cry was "Eight hours for work, eight hours for rest, and eight hours for what we will."

Their heroic struggle left a rich legacy for workers today. Part of that legacy is the Fair Labor Standards Act, the federal labor law which establishes 40 hours as the basic work week and mandates premium pay for anything over 40 hours. Another part of that legacy is the California Labor Code, which provides that workers in California must receive time-and-a-half after eight hours per day. California's eight-hour law is administered by the Industrial Welfare Commission (IWC), which issues wage orders covering California's various industries.

A.B. 398, passed by the Assembly this year at the urging of business groups, tried to undo a century of progress. The bill would have prohib-

ited the IWC from issuing any order that requires payment of any daily overtime premium to California workers. No time-and-a-half. No double-time.

Supporters of A.B. 398 claimed that the current regulatory structure "effectively prohibits" a change to more "flexible" work schedules. This is just hot air. Existing IWC rules provide employers with a way to institute flexible work weeks—if the effected employees vote to do so.

The downside of A.B. 398 would be very real. Without overtime premiums, paychecks would be smaller. But the problem goes beyond money. Freed from the obligation to pay overtime premiums, many employers would lengthen the work day to 12 or more hours. Numerous studies indicate that extended work hours significantly increase employees' risk of occupational injury. Extended work hours are also associated with increased fatigue and impaired judgment. Single parents (or families where both parents work) can have real difficulties finding childcare to cover such long workdays.

Overtime premiums are contractually protected for most Local 1245 members. But these protections are firmly anchored in state law. If we cannot hang onto the state law, our contractual protections will come under severe attack.

Our best protection is to identify candidates who support overtime protection—and then vote for them.

Picture working 30 consecutive hours in a winter storm and getting paid straight time for the whole thing. Do the math. It's not pretty.

Preventing repetitive stress injuries

Cumulative trauma injuries are a workplace epidemic of staggering proportions. In 1994, 332,000 new cases of cumulative trauma injuries afflicted American workers, a 10% increase over 1993 and an 800% increase over 1983.

The evidence is undeniable. The suffering is real. The costs are stratospheric. But so-called "pro-business" elected officials in Sacramento have blocked every effort to do something about this workplace catastrophe.

It hasn't always been this way. In 1991, California's Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) convened an Ergonomics Advisory Committee representing experts in ergonomics, safety and occupational medicine. After an exhaustive review of the scientific literature, the Advisory Committee concluded that the scientific and medical evidence was sufficient to develop an ergonomics standard.

In 1993, the California legislature approved sweeping reforms to the Workers Compensation laws. It was a great deal for business, but it also benefitted workers because it required Cal-OSHA to develop an ergonomics standard. When the Cal-OSHA Standards Board dragged its feet, a Superior Court judge ordered the Board to issue a standard.

The Standard Board has still failed to comply with that order. Meanwhile, the California Assembly voted this spring to repeal the requirement that a standard be issued.

The Key Bill: A.B. 50

What does this mean? It means very simply that 41 members of the California Assembly said: "We changed our minds. We agreed to a standard but now we don't want one. You're at risk of a crippling injury? Too bad. Tough luck. Get lost."

Why is an ergonomics standard so important to workers? Ergonomics is a science that deals with the proper fit between workers and their workplace. Its aim is to prevent injuries caused by awkward postures and high rates of repetitive motion or manual force. Some examples of

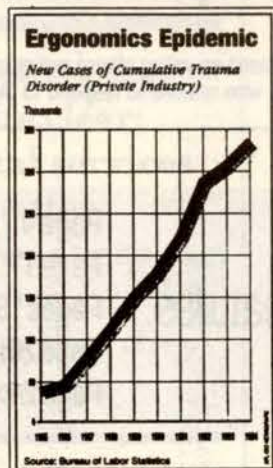
these injuries are back strains caused by improper lifting and carpal tunnel syndrome, a swelling of the tendons inside the wrist, which puts pressure on the nerve and can result in nerve damage.

In California, new cases of cumulative trauma injuries increased eight-fold between 1982 and 1993. These injuries now account for half of all new industrial injuries in the state.

A disability inflicted by a cumulative trauma injury at the worksite doesn't disappear at the factory gate or office door: it follows the worker home. Workers afflicted with these disorders are often awakened at night by excruciating pain in their hands and arms. They may be unable to hold the steering wheel of a car for more than a block before their hands go numb. Parents have reported being unable to hold a child, take out the garbage, or even twist the top off a soda bottle.

Industrial safety experts agree that an ergonomic standard is the single most effective way to combat this epidemic of cumulative trauma injuries. But the California Assembly has turned its back on these workers. And many anti-labor politicians in the California Senate are prepared to do the same—if they can just pick up a few more seats in the November election.

There is no excuse for delaying a standard any longer. Politicians who lack the courage to stand up for worker safety do not deserve our support on November 5.



Ergonomic injuries cause 2/3 of all new workplace injuries, but many California Assembly members voted to repeal the law that would have established an ergonomics safety standard.

Protecting workers from toxics

Every day workers are killed on the job. Sometimes they are killed by hazards they are not even aware of, that their employers never bothered to tell them about.

In 1990 California enacted the Corporate Criminal Liability Act to protect workers from serious concealed jobsite dangers. The law provides that any corporation or manager who has actual knowledge of a serious concealed danger—and knowingly fails to notify affected workers and appropriate state authorities within 15 days—is guilty of a crime. Punishments range up to three years in prison and fines of \$25,000 for individuals, \$1 million for corporations.

In 1996, the California Assembly voted to dramatically weaken this law, reducing penalties against employers and stripping workers of a valuable workplace protection. Fortunately, the California Senate stopped this attack on worker safety.

The corporations working to gut the Corporate Criminal Liability

The Key Bill: A.B. 675

Act claim that it harms the state's "business climate." But injuring workers seems an odd strategy to "improve" the state's business climate, when more sensible strategies exist, such as improving education and expanding worker training opportunities.

The sad truth is that many business leaders believe it is morally acceptable to sacrifice the health and lives of workers on the altar of higher profits. And as long as that attitude exists, strong penalties are needed to protect workers at the jobsite.

The California worker safety laws are especially important because federal laws are so weak. Penalties for significant violations of the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) are pitifully weak. Serious violations of OSHA carry an average penalty of only \$645 (that's \$753 for federal OSHA, \$567 for state OSHA plans). A violation is considered "serious" if it poses a substantial probability of

death or serious physical harm to workers.

Worker safety laws are not an academic exercise. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there were 6,588 workplace deaths due to traumatic injuries in 1994, an increase over the 6,271 reported in 1993. An estimated 50,000 additional workers die each year from occupational diseases. In addition, more than 6.8 million injuries and illnesses were reported in private sector workplaces in 1994.

These figures would be even grimmer were it not for worker safety laws. Since 1970, over 140,000 lives have been saved, and millions of injuries prevented, as a result of strengthened workplace protections.

Californians should be proud to have some of the strongest worker protections in the country. And we should have little tolerance for politicians who would throw those protections away.

Where do the Senate candidates in your district stand on the Corporate Criminal Liability Act? Find out for yourself on pages 9-11.

Improving the minimum wage

It is a betrayal of the American Dream that people can work fulltime and still fall below the poverty line, but that is the sorry situation in California and in America today.

It has been eight years since the minimum wage was increased from \$3.35 an hour to \$4.25 an hour in California. Since then, the earning power of the minimum wage has fallen 26%. Who's harmed by this drop in buying power?

It is estimated that over 2.5 million California workers earn wages below \$5 per hour. Of those who actually earn at or below the floor wage or \$4.25, 62% are women, of which 74.8% have no spouse in the home. Close to half are full-time workers—not high school kids earning "spending money."

Employers argue that raising the minimum wage will kill jobs. But economic studies point in both directions: some indicate that hiking the minimum wage has increased employment, others indicating a decrease in employment.

We are all diminished, financially and morally, when working people

The Key Bill: S.B. 500

live in poverty. Such desperately low wages are an incentive for people to quit work and go on welfare, or go outside the law, to make their living. When employers are permitted to pay poverty wages, taxpayers end up paying in the form of various subsidy programs for the poor.

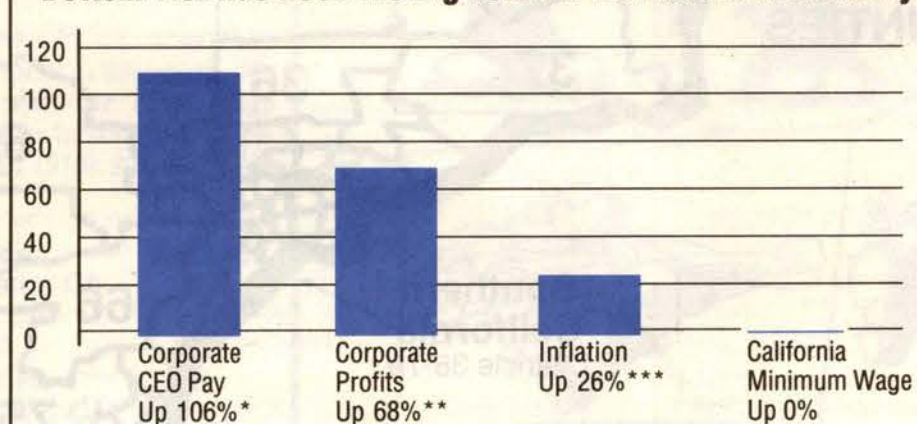
It makes no sense to restrict wel-

fare benefits, and then dump people into an economy where they can't survive on the offered wages. It is a prescription for economic and social disaster.

SB 500 did not make it through the California legislature, forcing labor unions to put the minimum wage hike on the November ballot.

On pages 9-16 and 21-24 find out which politicians believe the minimum wage should be raised, and which ones do not.

Since the Last California Minimum Wage Increase in 1988, the Bottom Tier Has Been the Big Loser in the American Economy



* Includes Bonuses & Stock Options, Business Week
 ** After taxes, Department of Commerce
 *** Bureau of Labor Statistics



Do You Want an
Assembly Representative
Who Is

FOR

Working People
or

AGAINST

Working People
on These
Key Issues?

Use the Map on Page 8 to
Identify Your
State Assembly District.

Find Out Where
the Candidates Stand
on the Issues
on Pages 9-16 & 21-24

Don't Let Politicians
Take Away Your

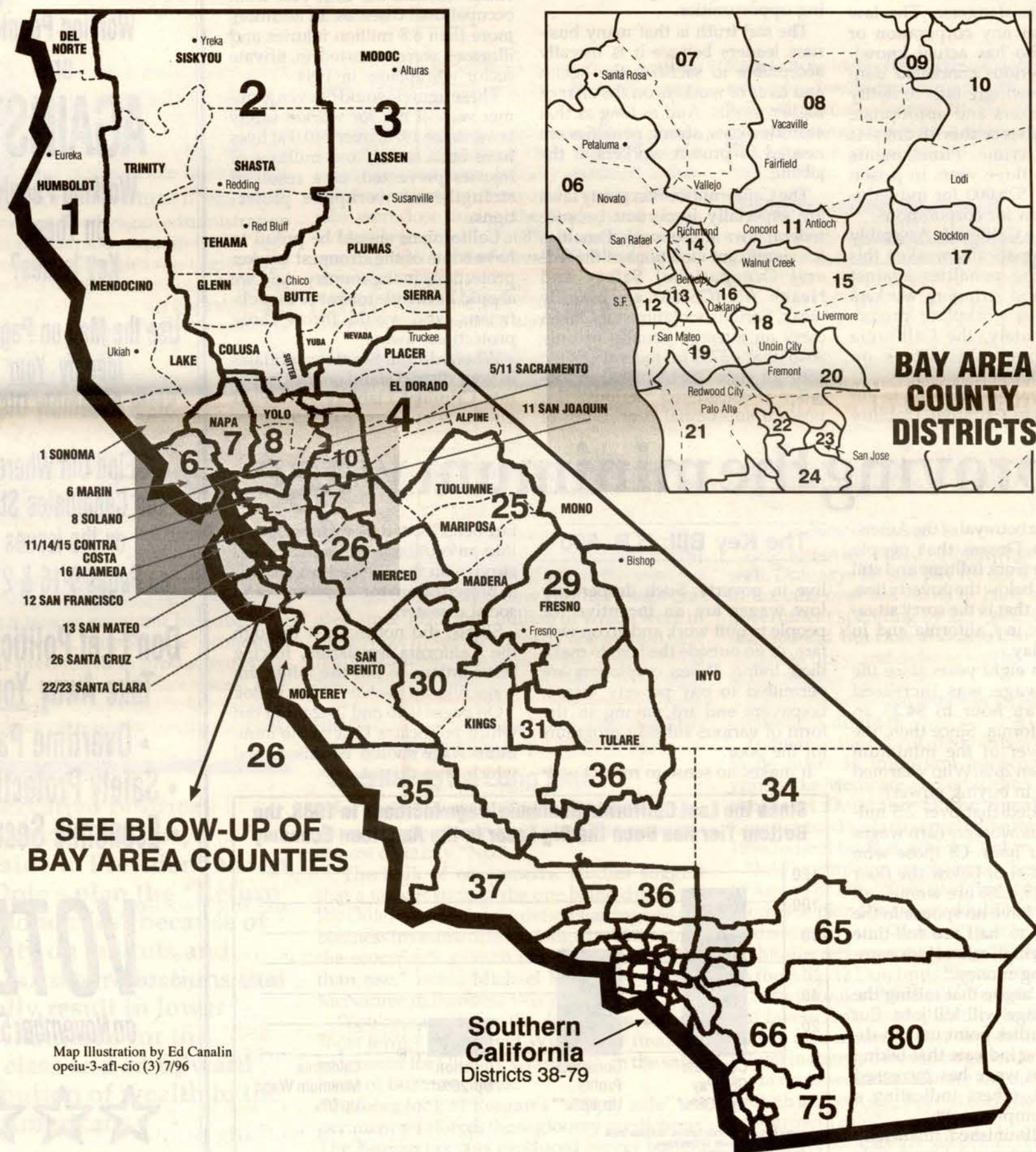
- Overtime Pay
- Safety Protections
- Economic Security

VOTE
on November 5!



The Districts: Find Out Which District You're In

Northern California Assembly Districts



The Issues:

Where Do the Candidates Stand?

No Photo
Provided

(No Incumbent)

Virginia Strom-Martin

**District 1
California Assembly**

Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake,
Mendocino, and part of Sonoma
Counties (See page 8)

(No Incumbent)

Margie Handley

No Photo
Provided



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Strom-Martin for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Strom-Martin for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Strom-Martin for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Strom-Martin for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to Take a Stand



(Incumbent)

Tom Woods

**District 2
California Assembly**

Colusa, Glenn, Shasta, Siskiyou,
Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, and parts
of Butte and Yolo Counties (See
page 8)

(Challenger)

John Growney

No Photo
Provided



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Woods against working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Woods against working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Woods against working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to take a stand



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to Take a Stand



(Incumbent)

Bernie Richter

**District 3
California Assembly**

Lassen, Modoc, Nevada, Plumas,
Sierra, Yuba & part of Butte Coun-
ties (See page 8)

(Challenger)

Irene Perry



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Richter against working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Richter against working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Richter against working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to take a stand



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Perry for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Perry for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Perry for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Perry for working people

The Issues:

Where Do the Candidates Stand?



(No Incumbent)

Erike Young

District 4
California Assembly

Alpine, Amador, Calaveras, El Dorado, Mono, and Placer Counties (See page 8)

(No Incumbent)

Thomas Oller

No Photo Provided



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Young for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Young for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Young for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Young for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to Take a Stand



(Incumbent)

Barbara Alby

District 5
California Assembly

Part of Sacramento County (See page 8)

(Challenger)

Eileen Burke-Trent



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Alby against working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Alby against working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Alby against working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to take a stand



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Burke-Trent for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Burke-Trent for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Burke-Trent for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Burke-Trent for working people



(Incumbent)

Kerry Mazzoni

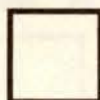
District 6
California Assembly

Marin & part of Sonoma Counties (See page 8)

(Challenger)

David Crockett

No Photo Provided



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

No Position



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Mazzoni for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Mazzoni for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Mazzoni for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Crockett for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Crockett against working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Crockett for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Crockett for working people

The Issues:

Where Do the Candidates Stand?



(Incumbent)

Valerie Brown

**District 7
California Assembly**

Napa & parts of Solano & Sonoma
Counties (See page 8)

(Challenger)

Ken Larsen



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Brown for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Brown for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Brown for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Brown for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Larsen for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Larsen against working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Larsen against working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Larsen against working people



(No Incumbent)

Helen Thomson

**District 8
California Assembly**

Parts of Sacramento, Solano & Yolo
Counties (See page 8)

(No Incumbent)

Ed Schlenker

No Photo
Provided



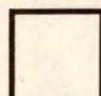
Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Thomson for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Thomson for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

No Position



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Thomson for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

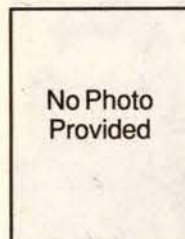


Toxic Exposure (AB 675)



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to Take a Stand



(No Incumbent)

Deborah Ortiz

**District 9
California Assembly**

Part of Sacramento County (See
page 8)

(No Incumbent)

Richard Davis

No Photo
Provided



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Ortiz for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Ortiz for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Ortiz for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Ortiz for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to Take a Stand

The Issues:

Where Do the Candidates Stand?



(Incumbent)

Larry Bowler

District 10
California Assembly

Parts of Sacramento & San Joaquin
Counties (See page 8)

(Challenger)

Matt Moretti



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Bowler against working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Bowler against working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Bowler against working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to take a stand



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Moretti for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Moretti for working people



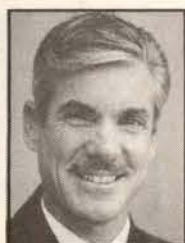
Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Moretti for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Moretti for working people



(No Incumbent)

Tom Torlakson

District 11
California Assembly

Part of Contra Costa County (See
page 8)

(No Incumbent)

Bill Maxfield



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Torlakson for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Torlakson for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Torlakson for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Torlakson for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Maxfield for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Maxfield for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Maxfield for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Maxfield for working people



(No Incumbent)

Kevin Shelley

District 12
California Assembly

Parts of San Francisco & San Mateo
Counties (See page 8)

(No Incumbent)

Terence Faulkner



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Shelley for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Shelley for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Shelley for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Shelley for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Faulkner for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Faulkner for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Faulkner for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Faulkner for working people

The Issues:

Where Do the Candidates Stand?



(No Incumbent)

Carole Migden

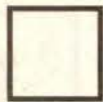
**District 13
California Assembly**

Part of San Francisco County (See Page 8)



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Migden for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Migden for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Migden for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Migden for working people

No Opponent



(No Incumbent)

Dion Louise Aroner

**District 14
California Assembly**

Parts of Alameda & Contra Costa Counties (See page 8)



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Aroner for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Aroner for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Aroner for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Aroner for working people

(No Incumbent)

William Muir



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to Take a Stand



(No Incumbent)

Gail Murray

**District 15
California Assembly**

Parts of Alameda & Contra Costa Counties (See page 8)

(No Incumbent)

Lynne Leach

No Photo Provided



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Murray for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Murray for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Murray for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Murray for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to Take a Stand

The Issues:

Where Do the Candidates Stand?



(No Incumbent)

Don Perata

District 16
California Assembly

Part of Alameda County (See page 8)

(No Incumbent)

Veronica Acosta

No Photo
Provided



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Perata for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Perata for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Perata for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Perata for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to Take a Stand



(Incumbent)

Michael Machado

District 17
California Assembly

Part of San Joaquin County (See page 8)

(Challenger)

Sylvia Sun Minnick

No Photo
Provided



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Machado for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Machado for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Machado for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Machado for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to Take a Stand



(Incumbent)

Michael Sweeney

District 18
California Assembly

Part of Alameda County (See page 8)



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Sweeney for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Sweeney for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Sweeney for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Sweeney for working people

No Opponent

The Issues:

Where Do the Candidates Stand?



(No Incumbent)

Lou Papan

**District 19
California Assembly**

Part of San Mateo County (See page 8)

(No Incumbent)

James Tucker



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Papan for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Papan for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Papan for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Papan for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Tucker for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Tucker for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Tucker for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Tucker for working people



(Incumbent)

Liz Figueroa

**District 20
California Assembly**

Parts of Alameda & Santa Clara Counties (See page 8)

(Challenger)

Anthony Smith

No Photo
Provided



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Figueroa for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Figueroa for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Figueroa for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Figueroa for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to Take a Stand



(No Incumbent)

Ted Lempert

**District 21
California Assembly**

Parts of San Mateo & Santa Clara Counties (See page 8)

(No Incumbent)

Theodore Laliotis

No Photo
Provided



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Lempert for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Lempert for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Lempert for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Lempert for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Laliotis against working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Laliotis for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Laliotis for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Laliotis for working people

The Issues:

Where Do the Candidates Stand?



(No Incumbent)

Elaine White Alquist

**District 22
California Assembly**

Part of Santa Clara County (See page 8)

(No Incumbent)

Karin Dowdy

No Photo
Provided



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Alquist for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Alquist for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Alquist for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Alquist for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to Take a Stand



(No Incumbent)

Mike Honda

**District 23
California Assembly**

Part of Santa Clara County (See page 8)

(No Incumbent)

Lisa Sutton

No Photo
Provided



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Honda for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Honda for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Honda for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Honda for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to Take a Stand



(Incumbent)

James Cunneen

**District 24
California Assembly**

Part of Santa Clara County (See page 8)

(Challenger)

Ed Foglia



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Cunneen against working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Cunneen against working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Cunneen against working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to take a stand



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Foglia for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Foglia for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Foglia for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Foglia for working people

★ **Candidate survey continues on page 21** ★

A new breed of seniors reshapes America

By Orv Owen

Fortunately in our country retirees are living longer and enjoying more leisure years in retirement. In my opinion, that enjoyment is well-deserved.

An overwhelming majority of these retirees make up the 58 million Americans who are grandparents. The traditional image of grandparents as doddering old

men and women in rocking chairs has been replaced by a more accurate picture—one that portrays a new breed of senior citizens:

- Who want to be participants in the development of their grandchildren;
- Who continue to be activists in the progress of their communities toward greater security;
- Who continue to support and participate in the needs

and struggles of workers and their families;

• Who continue to be political activists, both by choice and out of necessity, to ensure that the benefits we gained and fought for during our working years will not be wasted or decimated;

• And who continue to be proud citizens of our great country and who accept the responsibilities of citizen-

ship to be registered voters and then vote for the candidates of our choice.

Like most citizens, I was not born suspicious, people made me this way. In my view, the actions and records of political candidates speak louder than their words. There is no doubt in my mind who is supporting the working families and senior citizens in this election.

Keep the faith!

IBEW
Local
1245



Retirees Corner

Retiree Club dates

East Bay Chapter: Meets 2nd Thursday each month, 10 a.m., 3063 Citrus Circle, Walnut Creek, Ca.

San Jose Chapter: Meets 1st Thursday, 10 a.m. at Local 332, 1870 Stone Ave., San Jose.

Proposition 211 protects pensions/savings from con artists

Americans lose \$40 billion of their retirement funds and investments each year through investment fraud.

At least 103 Californians have their savings stolen in securities fraud *every day*.

How is this possible? Because savings in IRAs, money market accounts, 401(k) plans and pensions are all uninsured savings that can be stolen by con artists like Charles Keating—the infamous Savings & Loan swindler.

Proposition 211—the Retirement Savings and Consumer Protection Act—is designed to give working people and retirees the power to protect their hard-earned savings.

And protection is badly needed.

Criminal insider trading is a growth industry, according to William McLucas, enforcement director of the Securities Exchange Com-

mission. "We have as many cases today as we had during the 1980s when we were in the heyday of mergers and acquisitions," McLucas told the New York Times last year.

And older Americans are the number one target of investment con artists, according to the North American Securities Administration Association. Because that's where the money is. Public and private pension plans' investments in equities have grown from \$132 billion in 1975 to \$1.3 trillion in 1992. These "nest eggs" are targeted by investment hawks who hover around in bank lobbies or solicit seniors by phone.

Keating, the most famous of the Savings and Loans crooks, told his sales people that "the weak, meek and ignorant" are good targets.

At least 103 Californians have their savings stolen in securities fraud every day. Prop 211 will help swindled investors get back their stolen savings.

Keating sold worthless bonds to 23,000 people—most of them seniors.

The victims of Keating and his accomplices lost \$288 million. Most people went to court and recovered over 60% of their losses. Today that would not be possible because the US Congress recently enacted a law—over the President's veto—that makes it nearly impossible

for victims to bring suit in federal court to recover their losses. Corporate sponsors of that anti-worker legislation spent tens of millions of dollars to pass it.

Proposition 211—the Retirement Savings and Consumer Protection Act—will help swindled investors in California get back their stolen savings.

Proposition 211 puts the brakes on lying and deceptive statements by investment sellers in California. Any Californian whose retirement savings or pension funds are stolen will be able to take all responsible par-

ties to court—including accountants, lawyers and investment sales persons who aid and abet crooked corporate executives in complex frauds. Taxpayers also benefit because a jury can make defendants pay punitive damages for "despicable" conduct payable to California taxpayers.

Proposition 211 also closes a loophole in current California law by no longer requiring victims to prove they read and relied upon fraudulent information buried in legal fine print in order to recover their money.

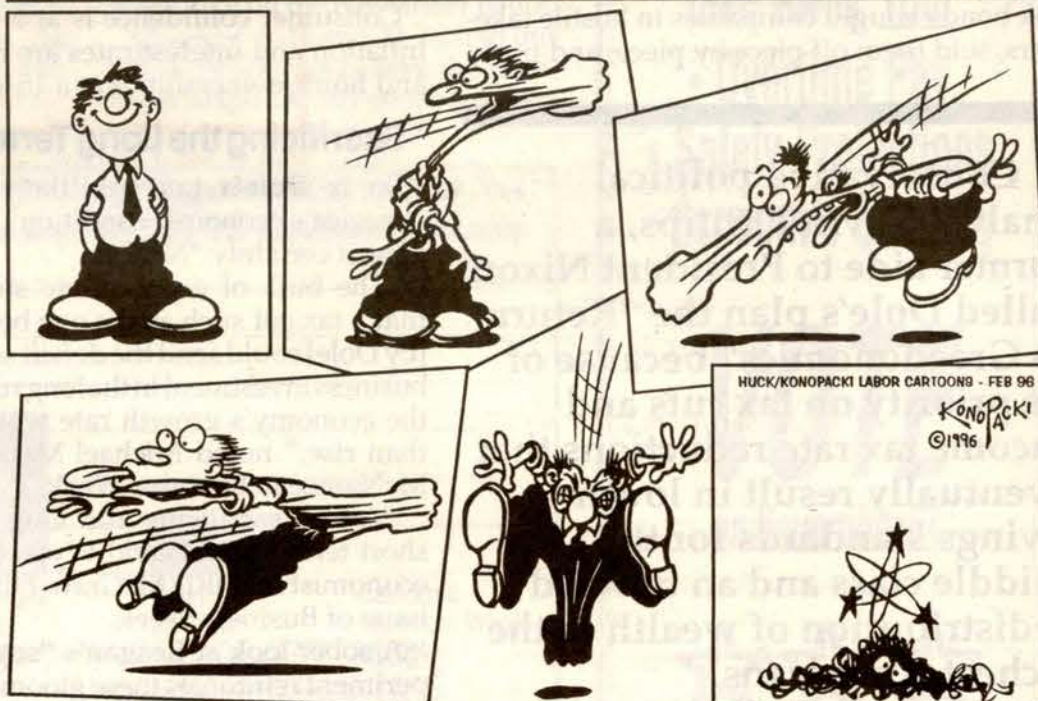
Proposition 211 takes power away from the con artists and gives it back to the people. Your union urges you to vote Yes on Proposition 211.

Congratulations to the newly-retired!

The Local 1245 Retirees Club extends its congratulations to these recently-retired members of the union. We encourage you to get involved with the Local 1245 Retirees Club Chapter in your area—or to start a new one if you don't have one close by! Call (510) 933-6060 and ask for Julie Rodriguez.

| Name | Residence | Yrs/Srv. |
|-----------------|------------------|----------|
| Pauline Bishop | Santa Maria, CA | 11 |
| Gordon Chipman | Fairfield, CA | 22 |
| James Hightower | Dixon, CA | 19 |
| Lowell Klemp | Eureka, CA | 38 |
| Grover London | Grass Valley, CA | 41 |
| Neil Senko | Salinas, CA | 42 |
| Morris Walton | Orland, CA | 31 |

THE AVERAGE WORKING STIFF MEETS THE INVISIBLE HAND OF THE MARKETPLACE





Bill Clinton

Which Way

At the heart of Bob Dole's plan for the economy is "supply side" economics. Is Dole's plan credible? One way to find out is to see how well it worked last time it was tried.

Fifteen years ago the Reagan administration embarked on an enormous experiment in "supply-side" economics. The idea was to give large corporations and wealthy Americans huge tax cuts that would stimulate investments and economic growth. Eventually the benefits of this growth would "trickle down" to working Americans.

Unfortunately for most Americans, the idea was economically unsound. Instead of new investments and economic growth, the 1980s tax cuts for the rich helped engineer the greatest transfer of wealth in US history. From 1983 to 1989, the richest 1% of Americans captured 62% of the increase in total wealth. The bottom 80% of Americans—which includes the entire middle class—got only 1% of the increase.

The financial speculation set off by Reaganomics was a boom for Wall Street deal makers, but it was an economic bloodbath for working Americans. "Supply side" economics did not spur investment in productive enterprises. Instead, corporate raiders armed with junk bonds bought companies in hostile takeovers, sold them off piece by piece, and pock-

eted a fortune. Millions of workers became unemployed. Many more saw their retirement nest eggs vanish.

By the time Reagan's successor, George Bush, left office in January of 1993, the US had become the most economically stratified industrialized nation in the world. Nearly 200,000 jobs were lost during the Bush years alone. Unemployment stood at 8%, economic growth was stagnant, and the federal deficit had climbed to record levels.

"Supply side" economics turned out to be a great party—but only the rich were invited.

The Clinton Record

What has Clinton accomplished since taking office in 1993? While many problems remain, the US economy has improved tremendously under Clinton's leadership.

Unemployment stands at just 5.1% today, a 30-year low. Economic growth is close to maximum capacity, 4.8% in the second quarter of this year. The deficit has been cut by more than half since Bush's last year in office, from \$290 billion in 1992 to about \$120 billion this year. An impressive 10 million new jobs have been created since 1993, four million of which were in high-wage industries. Nearly one million new manufacturing, automotive and construction jobs have been added since Clinton took office.

Consumer confidence is at a six-year high, inflation and interest rates are relatively low, and home ownership is at a 15-year high.

"Sacrificing the Long Term"

So is Dole's tax cut likely to improve America's economic condition? The answer is almost certainly "No."

"The bulk of econometric studies suggest that a tax cut such as the one being discussed [by Dole] could send the deficit soaring and cut business investment in the long run. Ultimately, the economy's growth rate would fall rather than rise," noted Michael Mandel and Mike McNamee in *Business Week*.

"You're sacrificing the long term for the short term," said David Wyss, chief financial economist for DRI/McGraw-Hill, in the same issue of *Business Week*.

A sober look at Reagan's "supply side" experiment reinforces these gloomy predictions. The Reagan tax cuts produced bigger budget deficits and sluggish business investment.

Rather than increasing savings, as the supply-side crusaders had predicted, the national savings rate actually *dropped*. Despite the creation of new savings incentives such as tax-exempt IRAs, the national savings rate fell from 9% in 1981 to 5% in 1987.

"Return to Greedonomics"

Conservative political analyst Kevin Phillips, a former aide to President Richard Nixon, called Dole's plan the "Return to Greedonomics" because of its priority on tax cuts and income tax rate reductions that eventually result in lower living standards for the middle class and an upward redistribution of wealth to the richest Americans.

Dole's 15% across-the-board income tax cut would put an additional \$9,000 annually in the pockets of the richest 1% of Americans, those earning over \$250,000 a year, according to a study by the Economic Policy Institute. But a family with an income of about \$40,000 would save a mere \$360 a year.

Dole's plan is riddled with other problems as well. Dole says he will pay for the \$548 billion in tax cuts over six years, in part, by cutting government spending by \$217 billion over the same period. But Dole also says that Medicare, Social Security, and defense will be "off limits" to the budget cutting ax.

Is that scenario even remotely possible? Most economists doubt it.

To finance the tax cut, deep cuts would have to be made in important government programs like Medicare and education, the same programs Dole and House Speaker Newt Gingrich tried to slash as part of the Republican's 1996 federal budget, which Clinton vetoed.

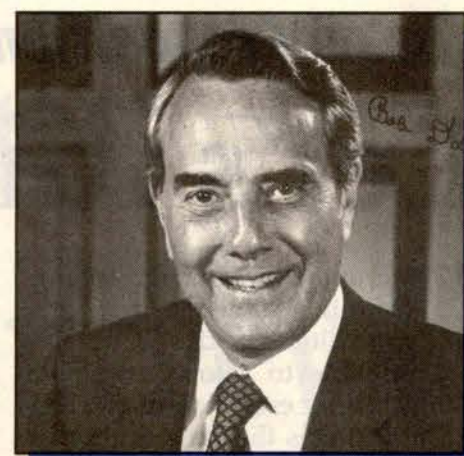
Dole's campaign co-chairman Sen. Alfonse D'Amato of New York said that under Dole's economic plan Medicare would likely have to be drastically cut. "You can't just be cutting all of this discretionary spending," D'Amato said on the Aug. 12 Don Imus Show. "You're going to have to look at Medicare. I would never say it if I were Dole until after the election."

Dole also assumes that an additional \$147 billion in revenue would be generated because his tax cuts would accelerate annual economic growth to about 4%. But is it realistic to assume a 4% growth rate?

Most economists are skeptical. From 1950-1970, the US economy expanded at an average

Conservative political analyst Kevin Phillips, a former aide to President Nixon, called Dole's plan the "Return to Greedonomics" because of its priority on tax cuts and income tax rate reductions that eventually result in lower living standards for the middle class and an upward redistribution of wealth to the richest Americans.

America?



Bob Dole

of 3.5% annually, but for the past 25 years has dropped to about 2.8% annually, according to the US Commerce Department. To assume it can be sustained at 4% is a "heroic assumption," according to Sung Won Sohn, chief economist at Norwest Corp. and a former economist in President Ford's administration.

The Deficit Would Skyrocket

A more likely scenario is that Dole would cut taxes, but fail to achieve spending cuts. In that case, the deficit would skyrocket, just as it did after Reagan's tax cut.

"If the deficit plan isn't credible, interest rates will go up, housing will falter and business investment will be cut, more than offsetting any growth effects Dole posits," said David Jones, chief economist at Aubrey G. Lanston & Co., a Wall Street dealer in government securities, speaking to the San Francisco Chronicle.

The higher interest rates that people would have to pay on their credit cards, automobiles and mortgages would offset much of the savings in income taxes.

Before his recent flip-flop on the issue, Dole himself rejected "supply side" ideology. In an interview with *Gentleman's Quarterly* last year, Dole ridiculed politicians who believed "if you just cut taxes, you'd have this big, big revenue increase. You know, more jobs, more opportunity, and you didn't have to make hard choices about spending."

Dole went on to say:

"That was the philosophy back in the Eighties, particularly with Newt and the House Republicans. Don't make any painful decision. Just cut taxes. In the Eighties, we said, 'Everything's going to be fine.' Well...it wasn't."

Dole even joked about a bus of supply siders going over a cliff. The bad thing, Dole said, was that there were three empty seats.

Driving America off a Cliff

But now Dole has gotten on the supply side bus himself. To see the possible consequences of his tax cut, it's again useful to check the historical record.

When Reagan slashed taxes on corporations and the rich in 1981, the US Treasury Department lost roughly \$850 billion over six years in tax revenue. This caused the annual federal budget deficit to soar from about \$40 billion in President Jimmy Carter's last year to over \$200 billion in 1984, Reagan's fourth year in office. The deficit eventually peaked at nearly \$300 billion in 1992 during Bush's last year.

That same year, about 52 cents of every dollar paid in income tax did not buy a single federal government service. Instead, more than half of every tax dollar collected in 1992 went to paying the interest on the nation's burgeoning debt, money that went to mostly wealthy bankers, investors and stockholders.

Dole's plan asks us to repeat this experience. This is not a strategy for restoring America to some kind of idyllic past. It is a strategy for

driving America off an economic cliff.

Clinton: Relief for Middle Class

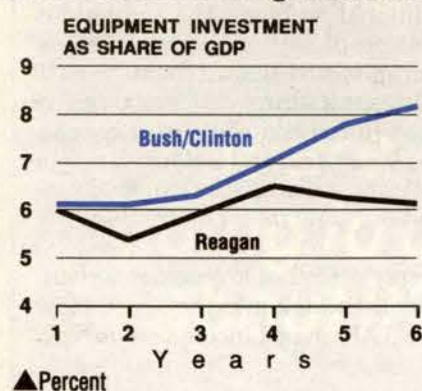
In stark contrast to Dole's economic plan, Clinton has a more prudent approach that won't balloon the deficit or drive up interest rates. Clinton's economic strategy, which calls for \$110 billion in tax cuts over six years, targets savings for those who need it most—working families earning less than \$40,000 a year. The plan, which includes a balanced budget by 2002, provides middle-class families with tax cuts for education, child-rearing and home ownership. The Clinton economic plan would:

- Substantially reduce or eliminate the capital gains tax when lower and middle-income families buy and sell a home.
- Provide a \$1500 Hope Scholarship tax cut for the first two years of college tuition.
- Give families up to a \$10,000 tax deduction for tuition for education at any age, resulting in a tax cut of up to \$2,800 per family.
- \$500-per-child tax credit for families with children under 13 and with annual incomes up to \$75,000. This would affect 19 million families with 37 million children.
- Additional family savings for education, retirement, first-time home ownership.

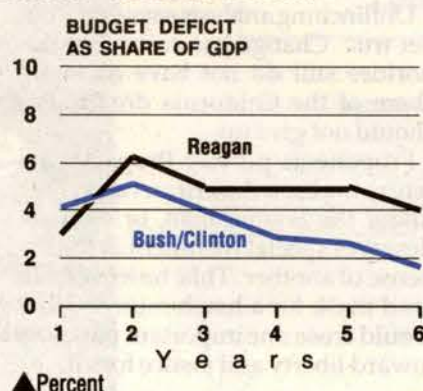
Clinton and Dole have charted two very different courses for the American economy. Now the American people will have to decide which way they want to go.

Does supply-side economics work? It has been six years since the start of the last recession, in July of 1990. In that time, Presidents Bush and Clinton followed an economic policy of holding down spending and moderate tax increases. By contrast, during the first six years of the previous recession, in July 1981, President Reagan followed a supply-side economic policy of cutting taxes for the rich and increasing spending. **Under Reagan's supply-side policy...**

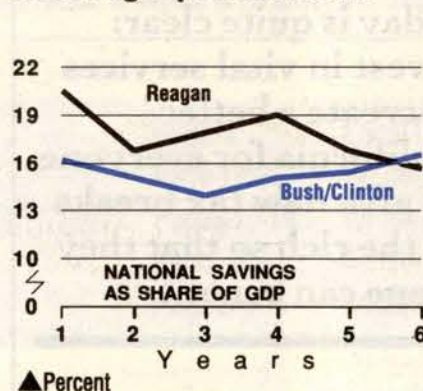
...Investment languished...



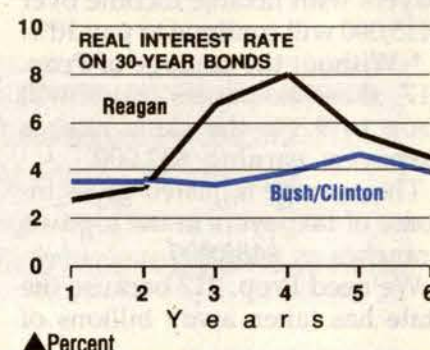
...The deficit rose...



...Savings plummeted...



...and borrowing got more expensive...



DATA: COMMERCE DEPT., DRI/MCGRAW-HILL, FEDERAL RESERVE, BUSINESS WEEK

Yes on Proposition 210

Let's raise the minimum wage

Something is terribly wrong when someone can work fulltime and still not be able to afford even the basic essentials of life. But this is the stark reality in California. Today, a full-time minimum wage worker's income is 32% below the poverty line for a family of three.

In 1996 the California legislature failed to act on a proposal that would have raised the minimum wage. Proposition 210, sponsored by the California Federation of labor, is based on a very simple premise: if the politicians won't raise the minimum wage then the people will.

It has been eight years since the minimum wage was increased from \$3.35 an hour to \$4.25 an hour in California. Since that time,

the earning power of the minimum wage has fallen by 26%.

We are all diminished, financially and morally, when working people live in poverty. Such desperately low wages are an incentive for

people to quit work and go on welfare, or go outside the law, to make their living. When employers are permitted to pay poverty wages, taxpayers end up paying in the form of various subsidy programs

for the poor.

It makes no sense to restrict welfare benefits, and then dump people into an economy where they can't survive on the offered wages. It is a prescription for economic and social disaster.

It is estimated that over 2.5 million California workers earn wages below \$5 per hour. Of those who actually earn at or below the floor wage or \$4.25, 62% are women, of which 74.8% have no spouse in the home. Close to half are full-time workers—not high school kids earning "spending money."

It's a simple idea: if you work full-time, you ought to be able to afford the basic necessities of life. No one is going to get rich off of the minimum wage. But people who work ought to be able to at least get by.

Vote YES on Proposition 210.

We are all diminished, financially and morally, when working people live in poverty. Such desperately low wages are an incentive for people to quit work and go on welfare, or go outside the law, to make their living. When employers are permitted to pay poverty wages, taxpayers end up paying in the form of various subsidy programs for the poor.

Yes on Proposition 217

Cancel tax cut for the wealthy, protect schools & communities

Proposition 217 cancels an unfair tax cut for the wealthiest 1% of taxpayers and directs those funds to schools, public safety, libraries and children's services.

Proposition 217 does not raise taxes. It simply maintains the top two state income tax levels, rates Gov. Reagan initiated in 1973 that have been in effect for all but four years since then. Proposition 217 continues those rates:

* Joint taxpayers, after all deductions, with taxable income over \$460,000, and single taxpayers with taxable income over \$230,000 will continue to pay 11%.

* Joint taxpayers, after all deductions, with taxable income over \$230,000, and single taxpayers with taxable income over \$115,000 will continue to pay 10%.

* Without the passage of Prop. 217, these taxpayers' rates will drop to 9.3%, the same rate as taxpayers earning \$32,000.

The average adjusted gross income of taxpayers in the top two branches is \$488,000.

We need Prop. 217 because the state has taken away billions of

our local property tax dollars and slowed spending on important services, with serious consequences: overcrowded classrooms, inadequate police and fire protection services, loss of libraries and children's services, crumbling roads and streets.

Without Prop. 217, these monies will be permanently lost.

There's a time when you have to choose. The choice we face today is quite clear: invest in vital services to create a better California for everyone, or give new tax breaks to the rich so that they alone can benefit.

Vote Yes on Proposition 217.

The choice we face today is quite clear: invest in vital services to create a better California for everyone, or give new tax breaks to the rich so that they alone can benefit.

No on Proposition 209

Local 1245 and PG&E agree: reject 'civil rights' initiative

Local 1245 joins Pacific Gas & Electric Co. in opposing Proposition 209, the so-called California Civil Rights Initiative which kills affirmative action programs.

The San Francisco Examiner recently wrote a powerful editorial in opposition to Proposition 209. A portion of that editorial appears below:

The question is not whether everyone in this state should be treated fairly and equally. Any conscientious person would agree to that.

The heart of the matter is whether our society has evolved to the degree that affirmative action is no longer needed to make sure that...minority groups are treated fairly and equally.

Unflinching analysis says that's not yet true. Change has come, but minorities still do not have an equal share of the California dream. We should not give up.

Proponents portray Prop. 209 a return to a basic American value: That under the law no man, or woman, deserves special treatment at the expense of another. This, however, is a kind mask for a harsh measure that would erase one important pathway toward liberty and justice for all.

The spirit Prop. 209 embodies is negative and exclusionary. It appeals to mistrust, fear and jealousy.

Denying the sincerity and goodwill of most of Prop. 209's supporters would be wrong. But it's impossible to ignore the racism that stains the movement's fringe. While Ward Connerly, the UC regent and 209 leader, dismisses David Duke's support, it ought to make him quake. When a black man and a Ku Klux Klan leader agree on a racial issue, something is awry.

For women, Prop. 209 creates an additional problem. The ambiguous wording of section (c) might allow discrimination against them.

The spirit Prop. 209 embodies is negative and exclusionary. It appeals to mistrust, fear and jealousy. It is not a helping hand, it's a slap. It diminishes our state rather than enhancing it.

Every voter should consider the hard facts, then look into the heart. How would Abraham Lincoln vote on Nov. 5?

The Issues:

Where Do the Candidates Stand?



(Incumbent)

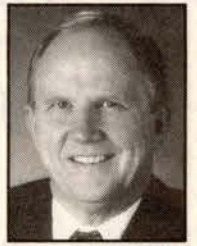
George House

District 25
California Assembly

Mariposa, Tuolumne & parts of
Fresno, Madera & Stanislaus
Counties (See page 8)

(Challenger)

Ed Elliott



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

House against working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

House against working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

House against working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to take a stand



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Elliott for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Elliott for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Elliott for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Elliott for working people

No Photo
Provided

(No Incumbent)

Dennis Cardoza

District 26
California Assembly

Merced & parts of San Joaquin &
Stanislaus Counties (See page 8)

(No Incumbent)

Thomas Berryhill

No Photo
Provided



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Cardoza for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Cardoza for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Cardoza for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Cardoza for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to Take a Stand



(No Incumbent)

Fred Keeley

District 27
California Assembly

Parts of Monterey & Santa Cruz
Counties (See page 8)

(No Incumbent)

Jim Davis

No Photo
Provided



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Keeley for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Keeley for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Keeley for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Keeley for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to Take a Stand

The Issues:

Where Do the Candidates Stand?



(Incumbent)

Peter Frusetta

District 28
California Assembly

San Benito & parts of Monterey,
Santa Clara & Santa Cruz Counties
(See page 8)

(Challenger)

Lily Cervantes



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Frusetta against working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Frusetta against working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Frusetta against working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Frusetta for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Cervantes for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Cervantes for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Cervantes for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Cervantes for working people



(Incumbent)

Charles Poochigian

District 29
California Assembly

Parts of Fresno & Tulare Counties
(See page 8)

(Challenger)

Mike McGonigle



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Poochigian against working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Poochigian against working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Poochigian against working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to take a stand



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

McGonigle for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

No Position



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

McGonigle for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

McGonigle for working people



(No Incumbent)

Brian Setencich
(Write-In Candidate)

District 30
California Assembly

Kings and parts of Fresno, Kern &
Madera Counties (See page 8)

(No Incumbent)

Robert Prenter Jr.

No Photo
Provided



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Setencich for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Setencich against working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Setencich against working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Setencich for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to Take a Stand

The Issues:

Where Do the Candidates Stand?



(Incumbent)

Cruz Bustamante

**District 31
California Assembly**

Parts of Fresno & Tulare Counties
(See page 8)

(Challenger)

Nathan Short



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)
Bustamante for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)
Bustamante for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)
Bustamante for working people



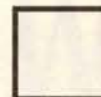
Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)
Bustamante for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)
Short against working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)
Short against working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)
No position



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)
Short against working people

No Photo
Provided

(No Incumbent)

John Hulpke

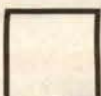
**District 32
California Assembly**

Parts of Kern & Tulare Counties
(See page 8)

(No Incumbent)

Roy Ashburn

No Photo
Provided



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)
No position



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)
Hulpke for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)
Hulpke for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)
Hulpke for working people



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to Take a Stand



(Incumbent)

Tom Bordonaro Jr.

**District 33
California Assembly**

San Luis Obispo & part of Santa
Barbara Counties (See page 8)

(Challenger)

Betty Sanders



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)
Bordonaro against working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)
Bordonaro against working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)
Bordonaro against working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)
Refused to take a stand



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)
Sanders for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)
Sanders for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)
Sanders for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)
Sanders for working people

The Issues:

Where Do the Candidates Stand?



(Incumbent)

Keith Olberg



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Olberg against working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Olberg against working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Olberg against working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Refused to take a stand

District 34
California Assembly

Inyo & parts of Kern & San Bernardino Counties (See page 8)

(Challenger)

Lionel Dew



Eight-Hour Work Day (A.B. 398)

Dew for working people



Repetitive Motion Injuries (A.B. 50)

Dew for working people



Toxic Exposure (AB 675)

Dew for working people



Minimum Wage Increase (S.B. 500)

Dew for working people

California Candidates and Propositions Endorsed by IBEW Local 1245

U.S. President

Bill Clinton, President (D)
Al Gore, Vice President (D)

U.S. Congress

California District

1. Michela Alioto (D)
2. Roberts Braden (D)
3. Vic Fazio (D)
4. Katie Hirning (D)
5. Robert Matsui (D)
6. Lynn Woolsey (D)
7. George Miller (D)
8. Nancy Pelosi (D)
9. Ronald Dellums (D)
10. Ellen Tauscher (D)
11. Jason Silva (D)
12. Tom Lantos (D)
13. Fortney Pete Stark (D)
14. Anna Eshoo (D)
15. Dick Lane (D)
16. Zoe Lofgren (D)
17. Sam Farr (D)
18. Gary Condit (D)
19. Paul Barile (D)
20. No Endorsement
21. Deborah Vollmer (D)
22. Walter Holden Capps (D)
23. Robert Unruh (D)
24. Brad Sherman (D)
25. Diane Trautman (D)
26. Howard Berman (D)
27. Doug Kahn (D)
28. David Levering (D)
29. Henry Waxman (D)
30. Xavier Becerra (D)
31. Matthew Martinez (D)
32. Julian Dixon (D)
33. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D)
34. Esteban Torres (D)
35. Maxine Waters (D)
36. Jane Harman (D)
37. Juanita McDonald (D)
38. Rick Zbur (D)
39. R. O. Davis (D)
40. Robert Conaway (D)
41. Richard Waldron (D)

42. Goerge Brown Jr. (D)
43. Guy Kimbrough (D)
44. Anita Rufus (D)
45. Sally Alexander (D)
46. Loretta Sanchez (D)
47. Tina Louise Laine (D)
48. Dan Farrell (D)
49. Peter Navarro (D)
50. Bob Filner (D)
51. Rita Tamerius (D)
52. Darity Wesley (D)

California Senate

California District

1. Thomas Romero (D)
3. John Burton (D)
5. Patrick Johnston (D)
7. Jeff Smith (D)
9. Barbara Lee (D)
11. Byron Sher (D)
13. John Vasconcellos (D)
15. Rusty Areias (D)
17. Steven Figueroa (D)
19. John Birke (D)
21. Adam Schiff (D)
23. Tom Hayden (D)
25. Teresa Hughes (D)
27. Betty Karnette (D)
29. Tommy Randle (D)
31. Gary George (D)
33. No Endorsement
35. No Endorsement
37. Hans Alfred Schroeder (D)
39. Deirdre Alpert (D)

California Assembly

California District

1. Virginia Strom-Martin (D)
2. John Growney (D)
3. Irene Perry (D)
4. Erike Young (D)
5. Eileen Burke-Trent (D)
6. Kerry Mazzoni (D)
7. Valerie Brown (D)
8. Helen Thomson (D)
9. Deborah Ortiz (D)
10. Matt Moretti (D)
11. Tom Torlakson (D)

12. Kevin Shelley (D)
13. Carole Migden (D)
14. Dion Louise Aroner (D)
15. Gail Murray (D)
16. Don Perata (D)
17. Michael Machado (D)
18. Michael Sweeney
19. Lou Papan (D)
20. Liz Figueroa (D)
21. Ted Lempert (D)
22. Elaine White Alquist (D)
23. Mike Honda (D)
24. Ed Foglia (D)
25. Ed Elliott (D)
26. Dennis A. Cardoza (D)
27. Fred Keeley (D)
28. Lily Cervantes (D)
29. Mike McGonigle (D)
30. Brian Setencich (R) (Write-In)
31. Cruz Bustamante (D)
32. No Endorsement
33. Betty Sanders (D)
34. Lionel Dew
35. No Endorsement
36. David Cochran (D)
37. Jess Herrera (D)
38. Jon Lauritzen (D)
39. Tony Cardenas (D)
40. Bob Hertzberg (D)
41. Sheila James Kuehl (D)
42. Wally Knox (D)
43. Scott Wildman (D)
44. Jack Scott (D)
45. Antonio Villaraigosa (D)
46. Louis Caldera (D)
47. Kevin Murray (D)
48. Roderick Wright (D)
49. No Endorsement
50. Martha Escutia (D)
51. Edward Vincent (D)
52. Carl Washington (D)
53. Debra Bowen (D)
54. Gerrie Schipske (D)
55. Dick Floyd (D)
56. Sally Havice (D)
57. Martin Gallegos (D)
58. Grace Napolitano (D)
59. Brent Decker (D)
60. Susan Amaya (D)
61. Paul Vincent Avila (D)
62. Joe Baca (D)

63. No Endorsement
64. Grace Slocum (D)
65. Shirley Morton (D)
66. Patsy Hockersmith (D)
67. No Endorsement
68. Audrey Gibson (D)
69. Lou Correa (D)
70. Shirley Palley (D)
71. Jack Roberts (D)
72. No Endorsement
73. Robert Wilberg (D)
74. Fred Clayton (I)
75. Adrian Kwiatkowski (D)
76. Susan Davis (D)
77. Janet Gastil (D)
78. Howard Wayne (D)
79. Denis Moreno Ducheny (D)
80. Steve Clute (D)

California Propositions

PROPOSITION 204: YES
A \$995 million bond issue for safe drinking water, increased water supplies, cleaning up pollution, and protection of fish and wildlife.

PROPOSITION 205: YES
\$700 million in bonds for local jails and juvenile detention facilities.

PROPOSITION 206: YES
\$400 million in bonds for CalVet home and farm loans.

PROPOSITION 207: NO RECOMMENDATION
Attorney fee restrictions.

PROPOSITION 208: NO
Campaign contribution limits that would cripple union COPE programs.

PROPOSITION 209: NO
Attack on affirmative action.

PROPOSITION 210: YES
The Living Wage Initiative sponsored by the California Labor Federation.

PROPOSITION 211: YES
Bans pension fund investment rip-offs.

PROPOSITION 212: YES
Campaign reform without the ban on union COPE contributions contained in Prop. 208.

PROPOSITION 213: NO
Protects insurance companies from paying auto accident claims.

PROPOSITION 214: YES
Stops HMOs from rewarding doctors for withholding information or treatment; requires HMOs to disclose profits and executive pay.

PROPOSITION 215: YES
Legalizes marijuana for medical purposes.

PROPOSITION 216: NO RECOMMENDATION
Stops HMOs from rewarding doctors for withholding information or treatment. Similar to Proposition 214.

PROPOSITION 217: YES
Repeals Gov. Pete Wilson's tax cut for the rich.

PROPOSITION 218: NO
Makes it even harder for local governments to finance needed improvements.

Vote
November 5