

# 2018: THE ROAD AHEAD PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SEIU 721



## 'RIGHT TO WORK'

**"It is a law to rob us of our civil rights and our job rights...We demand this fraud be stopped!"**

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**



### **A MESSAGE FROM SEIU 721 PRESIDENT BOB SCHOONOVER**

**W**orking people in America have been pushed to the edge. In the public sector, we're fighting to keep our communities healthy and safe with declining resources and rising demands.

At SEIU 721, we've built a powerful union that protects vital public services and the workers who provide them. It's why ultra-conservative billionaires are trying to cripple organizations like ours with the "Right to Work" scam. It's also why full union membership is must-have protection for your job, your rights in the workplace and the quality of life in your community.

SEIU 721 members won major victories in 2017, raising standards, improving working conditions and protecting workers. SEIU 721 won new contracts in the City of Riverside, L.A. County Sanitation Districts, Ventura County, Northeast Valley Health Corporation and many other Southern California cities. Our COPE elected strong worker advocates to Congress and to city government in Compton and Riverside, and SEIU 721 members lobbied Sacramento and rescued millions for vital safety net services. Our union took a leading role in the

successful campaign to stop the rollback of the Affordable Care Act, saving affordable care for more than 30 million Americans.

These victories were possible because of our members' collective creativity and determination. But this unity frightens billionaire ultraconservatives, like the Koch Brothers and the Scaife family. So they bankrolled "Right to Work" lawsuits that could cause the Supreme Court to radically reduce the ability of workers to organize unions.

SEIU 721 last year launched "Rise and Resist," training more than 1,000 member activists to fight "Right to Work" and show workers how to protect themselves through full union membership.

Please take a look at what our union is doing to protect all of us, and make sure you are signed up and receiving the protection and benefits of full union membership!

*Bob Schoonover*





# Our Strong Member-Led Union Delivers Victory

That's why billionaires want to cripple us with "Right to Work." And

Rally to save the Affordable Care Act



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
HEARING ROOM



Ventura County contract win

**IN 2017, SEIU 721 FOUGHT AND WON FOR WORKERS AT THE BARGAINING TABLE, ON THE BALLOT & IN THE STREETS.**



"Rise and Resist" trains activists



SEIU COPE scores ballot wins

## KEY SEIU 721 VICTORIES IN 2017

**WINNING GOOD CONTRACTS:** SEIU 721 raised standards and improved working conditions by winning new contracts in the City of Riverside, L.A. County Sanitation Districts, Ventura County, Northeast Valley Health Corporation and more.

**REFORMING THE WORKPLACE:** SEIU 721 helped transform health care delivery in the L.A. County Health Agency with its "Safe and Just Culture" plan.

**PROTECTING HEALTH CARE:** Our union took a leading role in the successful campaign to stop the rollback of the Affordable Care Act, organizing actions at congressmembers' homes and generating thousands of calls to legislators.

**PRESERVING SERVICES:** SEIU 721 COPE elected strong, pro-worker candidates to federal and state government who will lead on our issues. SEIU 721 lobbying efforts in Sacramento secured tens of millions in resources to avert layoffs, increase hiring, address short-staffing and reduce caseloads.

**RISE  
&**

**SEIU  
20**



# Victories for Workers in the Toughest Fights.

And that's why workers need the protection of full union membership.



(From left to right) The billionaire Koch Brothers are funding dozens of "Right to Work" attacks on workers. Memphis Sanitation workers march with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1968. MLK warned civil rights and labor activists that phony "Right to Work" laws would be used to oppress people of color. SEIU 721 L.A. City Sanitation workers remember Memphis and rally against "Right to Work."



## IN 2018, SEIU 721 IS READY TO FIGHT BACK AGAINST THE BILLIONAIRES' PHONY "RIGHT TO WORK" SCHEME.

721 Members take Rise and Resist Pledge



SEIU 721 Vice President Linda Dent at Unity Summit training.



### DON'T BE FOOLED BY "RIGHT TO WORK"

- "Right to Work" laws aim to strip workers of their bargaining power and silence their collective voice by making it harder to organize unions.
- "Right to Work" was created in the 1940s by Vance Muse, a far-right segregationist and oil lobbyist from Houston.
- Muse convinced white workers that they would be better off and have better jobs if black workers weren't allowed to unionize. What these white workers didn't understand was Muse's real aim was to take bargaining power away from all workers.
- Over the past several years, a group of billionaire ultraconservatives led by the Koch Brothers has filed federal lawsuits to force a Supreme Court ruling that will make "Right to Work" the law across the country.
- SEIU 721 has fought back by training 1,000 "Rise and Resist" activists to help workers protect themselves by signing up as full union members and by filing a brief in the Koch Brothers-backed "Janus" case at the U.S. Supreme Court.



SEIU LOCAL 721  
1545 WILSHIRE BLVD.  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90017

PRESORTED  
FIRST CLASS MAIL  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
LOS ANGELES CA  
PERMIT #22128

2018-2000-01A



## THE CONSERVATIVE BILLIONAIRES BEHIND 'RIGHT TO WORK' ARE TARGETING CALIFORNIA WORKERS. HERE'S HOW WE FIGHT BACK!

**H**ere's how "Right to Work" threatens SEIU 721 workers and what you can do to protect yourself.

So-called "Right to Work" is a fraud backed by billionaire conservatives and big corporations who want to increase profits by lowering middle class wages. They want to cripple our ability to form unions and silence our collective voice.

We know "Right to Work" really means the right to work for less money. Workers in "Right to Work" states make less money, are less likely to get health and retirement benefits, and are more likely to be injured on the job.

"Right to Work" laws originated in the "Jim Crow" South, and boosters worked to convince low-wage white workers that "Right to Work" laws would protect their jobs by preventing black workers from joining unions. Their real goal was to prevent workers of different races from coming together and forcing big employers to raise wages.

"Right to Work" is backed by a small group of ultra-conservative billionaires and big corporations who, for years, have spent millions trying to make "Right to Work" the law in the entire United States. This year, they may succeed: The conservative-controlled Supreme Court is scheduled to hear a case called Janus v. AFSCME that aims to cripple workers' ability to form unions.

Gilda Valdez, Chief of Staff

*Gilda Valdez*



### *Mark Your Calendar* **SATURDAY, MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup>**

Calling all leaders, activists, shop stewards, CAT Members, JLM Representatives and anyone ready to protect good union jobs. If you have been waiting for an opportunity to make a difference in your workplace, community and ultimately in our nation — **this is the time.**

### **MARCH 24 – WE FIGHT BACK!**

The professional scam artists are set to come to your worksite and homes — **we must resist.**

On **Saturday, March 24** you will learn how to protect your worksite, safeguard your family and defend everything you have worked for. Together we will defeat the **"Right to Work (for less)" scam.**

*See You Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>*

**Complete and return the attached postage-paid card to update your contact information  
and verify your membership, or sign up online at [seiu721.org](http://seiu721.org)**

**Questions? Call the SEIU Local 721 Membership Department at: 1-877-721-4968.**