



CALIFORNIA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS

Every Race Matters

Critical down-ballot contests up the stakes this November

Imagine a corporation in which the boss asks the employees who they think should be the CEO, the executive VP, the CFO, the pension fund manager and the whole board of directors.

For California firefighters, that happens every election.

When CPF members go to the polls this November, they won't just be voting on who will represent them. They'll be voting on the people who will make decisions about their jobs, their retirement, their safety and the future of their families. With so much at stake, from pensions to privatization to attacks on the profession itself, there's no such thing as a "boring" election for firefighters.

While it goes without saying that the governor and legislature are critical positions, choices up and down the ballot will resonate in the lives of first responders – in some cases immediately, in others, years or perhaps decades down the line.

The media may not pay much attention to these races, but you should.

STATE CONTROLLER

Sounds pretty nondescript, until you realize that the controller signs every check that goes out from the state. The controller sits on 81 different state boards and commissions, none more important than the CalPERS Board of Directors. The controller also monitors the fiscal health of the state and all cities and counties, including the retirement system. Past controllers have gone on to become U.S. senators and, in one case, governor.

If you care about your job and your future, you better care about the controller's race.

For firefighters, the choice is especially clear. Betty Yee has three decades of experience as a public servant and fiscal expert, most recently as a member of the state's tax authority, the Board of Equalization. Yee is tough, fair and supremely qualified. Yee's opponent,

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CPF ENGAGES ON OIL BY RAIL TOXIC TRAINS HAVE THE STATE'S FIRE SERVICE FOCUSING ON TRAINING, RESPONSE FUNDING

Across the state, plans to run trains filled with volatile crude oil through crowded downtowns and ecologically sensitive areas have the state's fire service on high alert.

This issue of oil-by-rail transport is rapidly becoming a priority for California Professional Firefighters (CPF), which is stressing the need for increased funding and training resources for departments that may find themselves dealing with spill-related incidents.

"With the major increase in oil-by-rail

shipments entering the state, we need to be sure that our first responders are trained in how to properly respond to any given situation," said CPF President Lou Paulson.

Until recently, the transportation of oil by rail was an afterthought for the state's multi-billion dollar petroleum industry. In the past few years, however, a boom in the Bakken oil fields of North Dakota has caused a major uptick in the volume of oil entering California via the state's railways.

In 2012, less than one million barrels,

or 0.3 percent of overall oil imports, entered the state by rail. Shipments by rail jumped more than 500 percent between 2012 and 2013, and now account for nearly one percent of all state oil imports—roughly 6.3 million barrels. At the current rate, the California Energy Commission estimates that 25 percent of total oil imports – 150 million barrels – will be brought in by rail in 2016.

As oil-by-rail shipments have increased, so too have the number of incidents and spills related to the practice. According to

CalOES, oil-by-rail incidents increased nearly nine-fold between 2011 and 2013. Through the first five months of 2014, California had seen almost as many incidents – 24 – as it had in all of 2013.

The preferred routes for these trains also pose some unique challenges. Trains transporting crude oil most likely travel through sometimes remote, sensitive areas, such as the Feather River or Donner Pass in Northern California or the Tehachapi Pass in Southern California.

"In these more rural areas, we're looking at a unique set of challenges," Paulson said, noting that many rural volunteer fire departments would rely upon mutual aid in the event of a large-scale railroad accident. "Should an incident occur, we need to figure out how to get emergency services personnel to these sites safely."

In order to ensure adequate preparedness for oil-by-rail emergencies, CPF along with the California Fire Chiefs Association and the Fire Districts Association of California, backed Assembly Bill 1476. If signed by the governor, AB 1476 would grant a \$10 million loan to the Office of Emergency Services for "regional railroad accident preparedness." While the loan is a step in the right direction, Paulson said, locating a permanent funding mechanism for local oil-by-rail response will continue to be a priority in the future.

Beyond resources, there is also a need for specific training available to all departments – urban and rural. Through the California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee (CFFJAC), CPF is working collaboratively with management on standardized training protocols that would improve the state's ability to quickly and safely respond to any significant incident.



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GOING *on* OFFENSE



LOU PAULSON

In the decade I have been honored to serve as CPF president, it has sometimes felt like we have been standing at the business end of a shooting gallery.

At the state level, our members have faced down two draconian attacks on our political rights, three different pension rollback initiatives, workers' comp takeaways, persistent drought-related fire risk and an ever-more-hostile media environment.

At the local level, our affiliates have felt the force of a cataclysmic recession that has contracted services, forced significant salary and benefit concessions, emboldened management attacks and, in some cases, sent cities running to bankruptcy in an effort to deflect fault for their own mismanagement.

The breadth of the attacks has often made it feel like we're spending most of our time on defense. But it's not in the nature of our business to stay back on our heels.

As the economic crisis recedes, we have taken the opportunity to take the fight to our adversaries. In many cases, we were the primary sponsors and motivators. Sometimes we were fighting these fights almost entirely on our own.

- **No more campaign money laundering by cities and counties.** For more than a decade, local governments have exploited loopholes in

campaign disclosure laws to funnel millions of city and county dollars into politics – specifically initiatives. CPF unmasked this deception and successfully promoted legislation curbing the most egregious practitioner, the League of California Cities.

- **Billions available for public safety by ending redevelopment.** For more than half a century, city governments used redevelopment to divert untold billions out of general funds and into subsidies for developers and pet projects. CPF was the most vocal supporter of Gov. Jerry Brown's successful effort to end this costly giveaway. As of January 1st, more than \$4.25 billion had been returned to local general fund coffers for critical public safety services.

- **Taking on the chemical industry over firefighter safety.** For decades, chemical companies have promoted the use of chemical flame-retardants linked to job-related cancer in firefighters and reduced brain function in children. In 2013, CPF and the IAFF were at the forefront of reforming California's flammability standards to more accurately reflect modern fire science. This year, CPF led the fight to require disclosure of these cancer-causing toxins on the labels of upholstered furniture.

- **Evangelizing retirement security for all.** Firefighters and other public workers have been forced to play defense against a decade-long assault on public pensions. Lost in the discussion is the devastating decline in retirement security for all Californians, public and private. Through our collaboration with other labor organizations in Californians for Retirement Security, CPF is helping to broaden the discussion about retirement so that every working person – public and private sector – enjoys pension security.

There is one other area where we all need to go on the attack: the fight for California's middle class.

As chair of the Alliance for a Better California, I've been called upon to lead labor's charge against devastating attacks such as Proposition 32 and the ill-fated Reed pension initiative. Our enemies in these battles have sought to drive a wedge between organized labor and ordinary working people. I'm sorry to say that, in some cases, their efforts have been successful.

The effect of this relentless assault is

there for all to see. Personal income for the vast majority of Californians remains flat, or has declined. Manufacturing jobs go overseas or to states like Texas that enable the exploitation of low-wage workers. Nearly three-quarters of college students will graduate with significant student-loan debt. A growing number of working people believe they will never be able to retire.

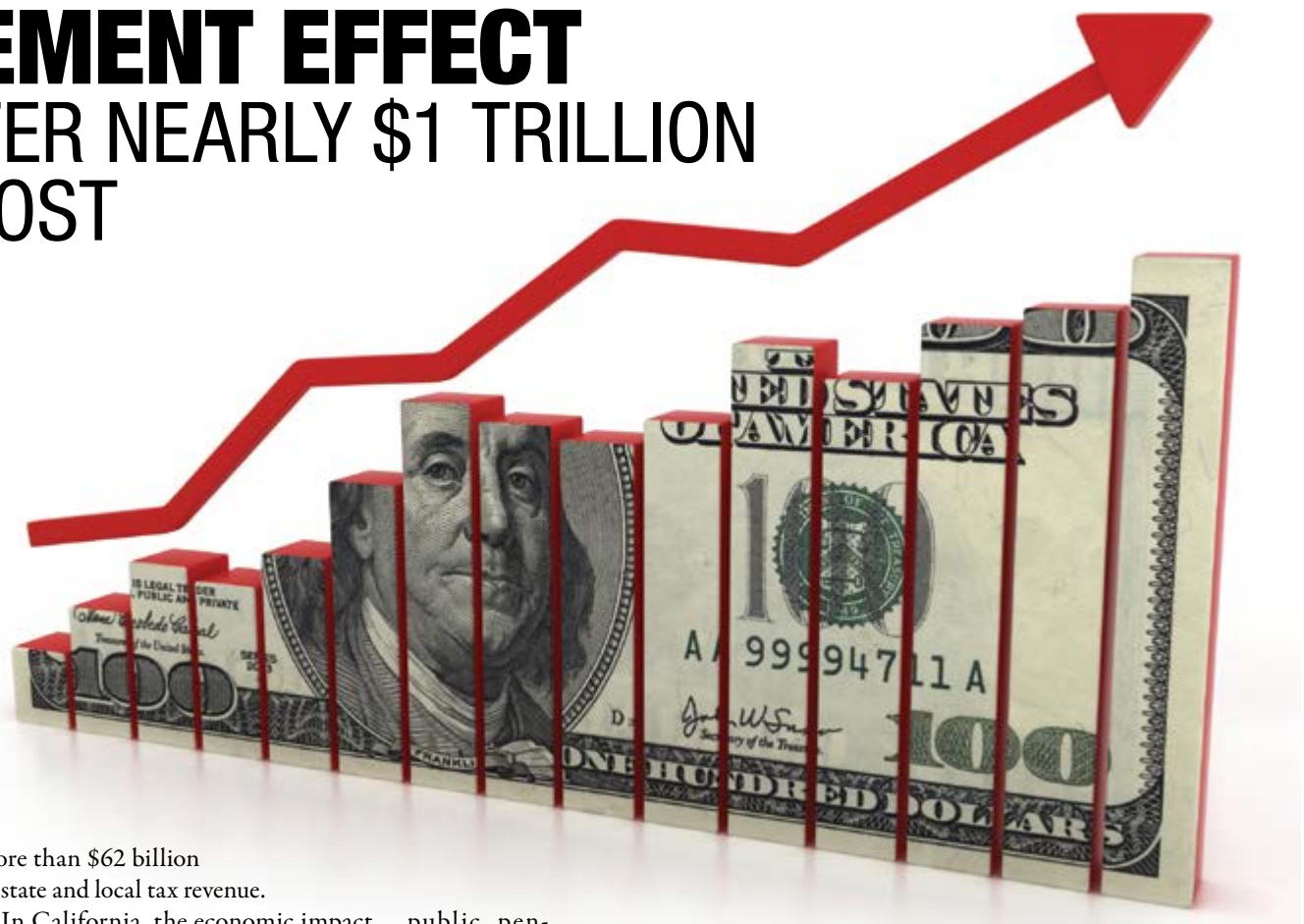
Turning this tide will take more than just counterpunching the latest ballot initiative: We need to start putting the other side on the back foot.

In my role at the Alliance, I have worked with other labor groups to put resources into a campaign to reconnect working people with the union movement. Our goal is to help a generation of Californians understand that they don't have to just accept the steady erosion of their opportunity for a better life.

As firefighters, this is our fight as much as anyone else's. Every time basic protections like health care or pensions are taken away from other workers, it becomes that much easier to take them from us. The best way to keep that from happening is to ensure that more people enjoy the benefits of something we take for granted: a strong, united and committed union.

THE RETIREMENT EFFECT

PENSIONS OFFER NEARLY \$1 TRILLION ECONOMIC BOOST



For years, retirement security has been a top priority for firefighters and other public servants, but a new national study suggests that the economic benefit of pension plans extends well beyond those actually cashing a check.

According to the National Institute on Retirement Security (NIRS), the benefit payments provided by state and local government pension plans had a total economic impact of more than \$943 billion. Pension benefit payments also supported more than 6.2 million jobs that paid nearly \$307 billion in labor income to American workers, according to an NRIS study.

The study, *Pensionomics 2014: Measuring the Economic Impact of Defined Benefit Pension Expenditures*, supports an assertion that labor groups and other pension supporters have been putting forward for years – that pensions boost state and local economies and their elimination would saddle taxpayers with billions of dollars in new costs each year.

While focusing largely on the more than \$943 billion in total economic output, the study also found that expenditures made from defined benefit pension payments specifically accounted for more than \$72 billion in federal tax revenue and

more than \$62 billion in state and local tax revenue.

In California, the economic impact supported directly by retirees' pension payments penciled out to slightly more than \$30 billion. The state's total economic impact, which also accounts for purchases made by businesses and employees who benefit from a retiree's initial purchase, came in at more than \$60 billion.

These figures were echoed by a second study conducted by California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS), the largest public pension fund in the nation.

"This study clearly illustrates that

public pensions are one of the most powerful engines that drive California's economy," said Anne Stausboll, Chief Executive Officer for CalPERS.

Recently, the International Association of Fire Fighters highlighted the importance of pensions, particularly to members of the fire service, through an online video "The Solution to America's Retirement Crisis."

In addition to highlighting the benefits extended to taxpayers and their communities through increased economic activity, the video also discussed

how pensions are vital to recruiting top-talent to the fire service and noted that the vast majority of pension benefits are paid for by employee contributions and investment income. Pensions also represent a portion of the overall compensation package tied to a dangerous profession that often requires retirement at an early age.

The video can be viewed on the IAFF's website, www.iaff.org, by clicking the "Pension Resources" link under the "Departments" tab.

VICTORY in VENTURA

Koch-Backed Forces Lose Bid to Eliminate Secure Retirement

It's official: An effort to wipe out secure public employee pensions in Ventura County is dead.

Organizers of an initiative that would have eliminated defined benefit pensions have decided not to pursue a court fight to force it onto the November ballot. The decision by the anti-pension forces came earlier this summer, after a Ventura County judge ruled that the draconian proposal violated state retirement and initiative law, and ordered it removed from the ballot.

"The outside forces pushing this pension grab learned the hard way that they are not above the law," said Chris Mahon, president of Ventura County Professional Firefighters Local 1364. "We are grateful that the judge saw through their deceptive proposal and sent it to a well-deserved oblivion."

The misleading proposal sought to usurp state law by eliminating secure pensions for new employees and imposing limits on retirement for existing workers. The proposal doubled down on previous

pension grabs in San Diego and San Jose by cutting off secure pensions entirely.

The well-financed backers of the pension initiative gathered enough signatures to put the pension grab on the county ballot and had the financial backing of hedge-fund billionaire John Arnold. The campaign chairman was the California director for the Koch-sponsored Americans for Prosperity (AFP). These and other advocates publicly admitted they viewed the measure as a model for eliminating public pensions altogether.

"I guarantee you when this passes, every '37 Act county will have it on their ballot," said Ventura Supervisor Peter Foy, AFP's California director.

A diverse coalition that included public and private sector labor and community leaders came together to oppose the initiative and brought the legal challenge that

ultimately invalidated the measure.

"This important victory could not have happened without the unity and commitment of working people in Ventura County and throughout California," said Mahon. "I am especially grateful for the efforts of CPF and the outpouring of support from our brother and sister firefighters up and down the state. Without that help, this victory would not have been possible."

Proponents haven't given up on their scheme. "We plan to take our spirit of reform statewide," said David Grau of the Ventura Taxpayers Association. "Nothing ends here."

"The Ventura victory was a big win for secure retirement in California," said CPF President Lou Paulson, "but the fight is far from over."

'WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR ME LATELY?'



LEW STONE

In most professions represented by organized labor, at some point the members will verbalize the adage, "What has the union done for me lately?"

When union leadership hears this question, they often respond with involuntary tracheal spasms, while their thoughts are clouded by the extreme onset of hypertension. Once the initial shock abates, sanity returns and the leaders attempt to calmly educate the member. Here in the California fire service, things are no different.

California Professional Firefighters is an unknown quantity to many of our nearly 30,000 members. Even some local leaders are not quite sure: whose fault is it?

Perhaps we assume that our members "just know." Perhaps the members do not take the time to connect their job securities to the hard work of their union, meaning their local, CPF and the IAFF. Whatever the reason, I will attempt to illuminate in a few paragraphs some of

the things "your union has done for you lately."

First, a little history.

CPF is a labor organization with two primary goals: a comprehensive legislative program and proactive political action. That is our mission. Obviously, without political action, our legislative agenda falls on its face. The two go hand-in-hand. Before we could have ever passed our cancer presumptive protections, we had to make sure people were elected to office who shared our views.

There are firefighters who believe our safety pensions and benefits like "4850 time" were handed to us simply because we deserved them. They weren't.

Even with our well-honed political skills, getting a controversial piece of legislation passed requires huge effort. Doing the legislative background work, the research data, the education of political decision-makers are all part of the CPF's formula for success.

The fact that some feel they can "go it

alone" and be successful at the state level is laughable.

Some may think that we can now rest on our accomplishments. Apathy and neglect will only lead to our opponents taking shots at us. Look at some of our neighboring states. They are seeing the repeal of vital firefighter protections. You think that couldn't happen here?

Most disturbing is the attitude of a few: the "let the others carry the load" mindset. How many with that attitude

will it take before the boat takes on too much water and capsizes? At the very time our billionaire opponents are gearing up for the next run at us, some cannot see the value in the full participation of each member at the local, state and international level.

I leave you with this question: instead of asking what your union has done for you lately, ask yourself what you have done to further the cause and strengthen our position for the generations to come.

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BROWN SIGNS DEATH BENEFITS PROTECTION FOR FALLEN FIREFIGHTER FAMILIES

Earlier this year, Governor Jerry Brown signed legislation that will provide some comfort for the widows and children of firefighters stricken by job-related cancer.

Assembly Bill 1035 eases the arbitrary 100-year-old time limit that restricts the ability of surviving widows and orphans to apply for death benefits under Workers' Compensation. The bill by Assembly member John Perez extends the current 240-week time limit to apply for the benefit to 420 weeks.

The new law applies to firefighters who were diagnosed with job-related cancer or MRSA while active on the job. Its purpose is to relax a "death clock" that

penalized survivors of stricken firefighters and police officers who fought for life beyond the arbitrary limit.

"Under the old law, survivors could lose a substantial benefit if they lived even one day beyond the limit," said CPF President Lou Paulson. "Families of our stricken firefighters should not be penalized because their loved ones lived 'too long.'"

The measure was inspired by the case of Betty Dowling, the widow of Los Angeles City firefighter Tom Dowling. After being diagnosed with job-related cancer, Dowling fought for his life, managing to keep working between chemotherapy treatments. When Tom died six years after his diagnosis, Betty was shocked to find that the survivor benefit had "timed out."

"We thought it was a given that after

Tom passed away from presumptive cancer, his family was entitled to the death benefit," said Frank Lima, president of United Firefighters of Los Angeles City Local 112. "We found out that because of this loophole in the law, the Dowling family was, unfortunately, penalized."

The governor's action ended a three-year struggle. The legislation won enormous backing in both parties and both houses of the Legislature, but was vigorously opposed by the League of California Cities, which cited largely made-up cost estimates that exaggerated the potential fiscal impact.

After two previous versions were vetoed, CPF worked with Brown and the author to find common ground. AB 1035 includes a so-called "sunset" provi-

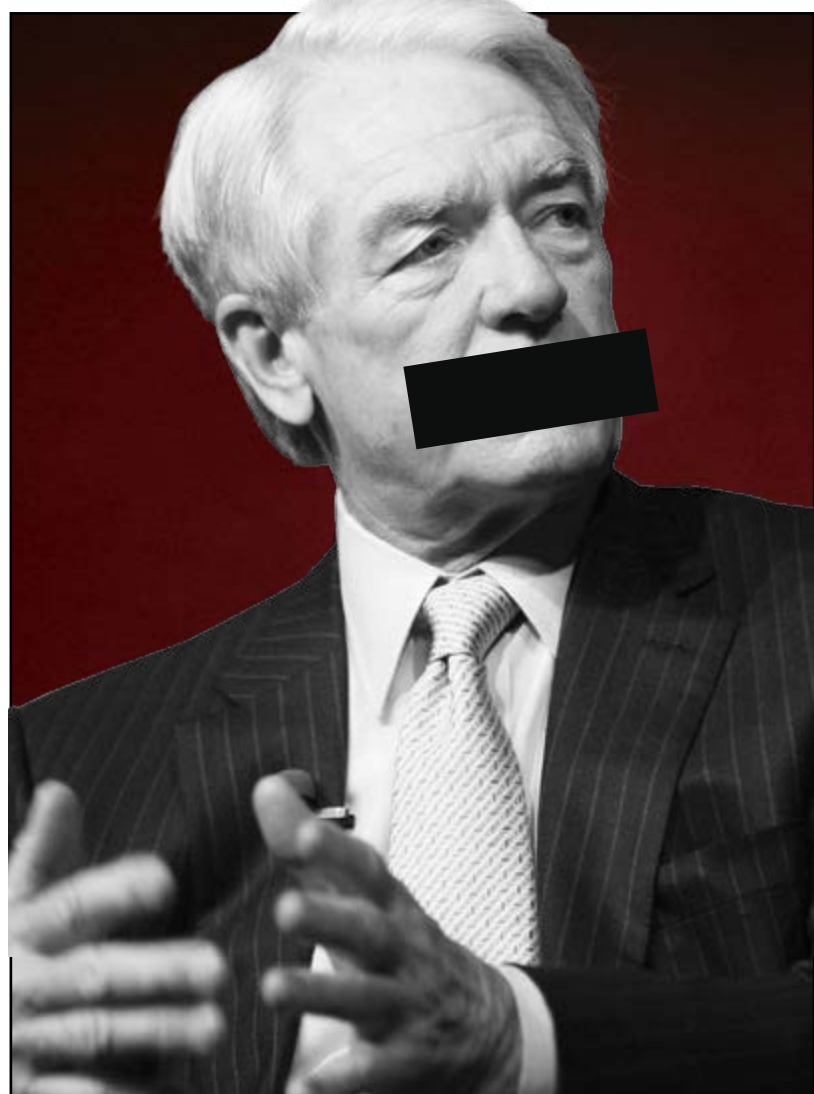
sion that requires that it be re-authorized in four years to better assess the bill's potential cost. The measure takes effect in January of 2015.

"We are eternally grateful to Assemblyman Perez for his unyielding support for our fallen firefighter families," said Paulson. "He took a lot of heat and didn't waver. For that, all firefighter families owe him a tremendous debt."

As for the widow whose case inspired AB 1035, Betty Dowling also expressed delight at the measure's passing, saying it will ease the pain of future fallen firefighter families.

"There's nothing really in this for me," said Dowling, "except the peace of mind that it's going to take care of somebody else."

IAFF CENSURES CHARLES SCHWAB OVER SECRET PROP 32 CONTRIBUTIONS



Firefighters from throughout the nation have taken a stand against a backhanded effort by Wall Street to undercut their political rights.

At its 2014 national convention, the International Association of Fire Fighters unanimously approved a CPF-sponsored resolution denouncing investment executive Charles Schwab and urging his removal as chairman of the company that bears his name.

Two years ago, Schwab was one of a handful of wealthy executives and ideologues who contributed to a dark money campaign in support of Proposition 32, the failed 2012 attempt to silence firefighters' political voice.

According to media reports, Schwab personally contributed \$6.4 million to the campaign, which was funneled through three separate non-profit entities to hide the source. The scheme prompted the Fair Political Practices Commission to levy a record fine against the organizers of the dark money scheme.

"What Mr. Schwab, the Koch brothers and other wealthy contributors did was nothing less than money laundering," said CPF President Lou Paulson. "As a California firm, it was important that we call him out for this underhanded attempt to silence our voice."

The drive to censure Schwab began late last year when the California Professional Firefighters Insurance Trust – a shareholder in the Charles Schwab

Corporation – wrote Schwab a letter notifying him that its shares would vote against his re-election as board chair.

"Your action," wrote Insurance Trust Chair Ken Bryant, "undermines the credibility of your leadership and brings disrepute upon Charles Schwab Corporation."

CPF took up the cause at its biennial convention, unanimously approving a resolution in response to Schwab's effort. The CPF resolution, subsequently adopted by IAFF, called for:

- CPF and the IAFF to denounce Schwab for his participation in the dark money campaign;
- All locals with holdings in Schwab Corporation to vote their shares against his retention as chairman;
- All locals with Schwab holdings to support shareholder accountability proposals put forth by the New York State Comptroller;
- Relaying of these actions to Schwab, his board of directors and all IAFF affiliated organizations.

"Even though Proposition 32 was ultimately defeated, we think it's important to take a stand against those who sought to hide their involvement," said Paulson. "We are grateful that the full IAFF is on record taking Schwab to task for this shameful act of betrayal."

CPF WINS KEY LEGISLATIVE VICTORIES IN SACRAMENTO

The final days of the 2013-14 legislative session saw a strong finish for the state's fire service. With the help of engaged firefighter advocacy, California Professional Firefighters (CPF) successfully sent a comprehensive package of pro-firefighter legislation to the governor, who had until the end of September to act on bills approved by the Legislature.

As of mid-September, the legislation listed below was either signed or on Gov. Brown's desk awaiting signature:

- AB 2126 (Rob Bonta, D-Alameda) – Eliminates the veto power that one party has over the other when negotiations hit an impasse and a mediator is desired. Not only will this bill help firefighters and their employers reach agreements, it will help avoid the indiscriminate imposition of last, best and final offers by employers. This bill also clarifies that fact-finding can be invoked over impasse on any issue within the scope of representation;
- AB 2146 (Nancy Skinner, D-Berkeley) – Moves us closer to providing firefighters a greater degree of personal protection by requiring the state to look at NFPA's nationally-recognized PPE standards and determine whether state updates should be made;
- AB 2378 (Henry Perea, D-Fresno) – Overturns a decision by a state appeals court last January that misinterpreted legislative intent. This decision, if allowed to stand, could cost firefighters up to a full year of disability eligibility when they're injured on the job;
- AB 2577 (Ken Cooley, D-Rancho Cordova) – Ensures that available federal Medicaid dollars aren't left on the table by allowing public agencies that provide ground emergency medical transportation for Medi-Cal patients to capture lost reimbursements from managed care beneficiaries with the use of intergovernmental transfers;
- SB 388 (Ted Lieu, D-Torrance) – Strengthens the Firefighters Bill of Rights by clarifying that an employer can't deny a firefighter representation in instances where he or she is being questioned by that employer in connection with an investigation and the questioning might lead to punitive action;

- SB 556 (Alex Padilla, D-Pacoima) – Protects the firefighter image by requiring that uniforms worn and vehicles used by public health and safety personnel denote whether they belong to a public agency or private contractor;

- SB 1019 (Mark Leno, D-San Francisco) – Protects consumers and, in turn, firefighters by requiring upholstered furniture to include a disclosure as to whether the product contains flame retardant chemicals, which produce cancer-causing agents when they burn, putting firefighters and the public at risk;

- SB 1438 (Fran Pavley, D-Agoura Hills) – Directs the state to develop standards and promulgate regulations allowing all pre-hospital emergency care personnel, including firefighters, to administer Naloxone.

The success in the final days of the legislative session comes in addition to the following bills, which reached the Governor's desk and were signed earlier this summer:

- AB 1035 (John Perez, D-Los Angeles) – Extends the statute of limitations for filing a survivor-related workers' compensation death benefit claim in instances where a firefighter's death was the result of job-caused cancer, tuberculosis, or a blood-borne infectious disease;

- AB 1561 (Freddie Rodriguez, D-Pomona) – Extends the sunset date of the state's voluntary California Firefighters Memorial Fund personal income tax check-off;

- AB 2438 (Bonnie Lowenthal, D-Long Beach) – Clarifies that the training of firefighting equipment operation may be conducted by a firefighter who possesses a class C license with a firefighter endorsement.

The Legislature also adopted ACR 102 (Steve Fox, D-Palmdale), which proclaims October 11th as Firefighters Memorial Day. This measure does not require the Governor's signature to take effect.

For more information on CPF-sponsored legislation, including updates made after the governor's September 30th signing deadline, please visit www.cpf.org.



FLAME RETARDANT RIGHT TO KNOW APPROVED BY LEGISLATURE

Toxic chemical disclosure wins despite toxic chemical industry campaign

The California Legislature struck an important blow in the effort to reduce the volume of cancer-causing toxins that threaten the lives and health of firefighters and the people they serve.

Standing up to a furious, big-ticket lobbying blitz by the chemical industry, lawmakers in both houses approved Senate Bill 1019, the Flame Retardant Right-to-Know Law. Authored by Senator Mark Leno (D-San Francisco) and co-sponsored by California Professional Firefighters, SB 1019 requires that upholstered furniture carry a label that includes information on whether or not it has been treated with chemical flame retardants.

"California took a huge step forward last year when it ruled that upholstered furniture can be manufactured without toxic flame retardant chemicals and still be fire safe," said Senator Leno. "SB 1019 gives consumers what they have demanded for decades – the right to know what is in their furniture and the power to make an informed decision about whether to purchase it."

The use of chemical flame retardants has come under increasing national attention, as chemical companies have fought to continue their use despite growing evidence that they don't work. According to a September "white paper" from the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA), flame retardant foams "did not offer a practically, significantly greater level of open flame safety as did untreated foams."

While their effect on fires may be small, the health risks associated with these toxins are significant. Medical studies have linked the chemicals in flame retardants with a host of ailments, including diminished brain development in children.

"Many studies find toxic flame retardants in our bodies, including in pregnant women and children," said Judy Levin with the Center for Environmental

Health. "Parents and other consumers have a right to know when they are used in furniture."

For firefighters, the chemicals in flame retardants are part of the toxic soup that every firefighter wades into in a structure fire. These toxins adhere to turnout coats and hang in the air during overhaul operations, increasing exposure to agents widely linked to job-related cancer. Recognizing this risk, delegates at the 2014 CPF Convention unanimously voted to urge the IAFF to work for the elimination of carcinogenic flame retardants and the development of non-toxic alternatives.

"Every year, firefighters are diagnosed with job-related cancer linked to exposure to these chemicals," said CPF President Lou Paulson. "SB 1019 ensures that every Californian knows whether toxic chemicals are being used in upholstered furniture, with the option to make a safer choice."

The \$5-billion chemical flame retardant industry launched a furious and misleading lobbying campaign against the measure. Touting discredited studies and the word of paid consultants, the Washington, D.C.-based American Chemistry Council misleadingly claimed that SB 1019 would "weaken" California's fire safety standards.

"The industry's insulting campaign sought to pit the word of hired guns against that of front-line firefighters, whose lives depend on understanding how fire works," said Paulson. "Their campaign was dangerous, deceptive and an insult to our profession."

In addition to CPF, SB 1019 was supported by furniture manufacturers in and out of California, environmental groups like the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Center for Environmental Health, and the Consumer Federation of California.

SAN JOSE AT A CROSSROADS

With current mayor and long-time pension opponent Chuck Reed terming out of office, San Jose firefighters are working to bring 'common sense' back to mayor's office.

The contest this November to replace the termed-out mayor pits current Santa Clara Supervisor Dave Cortese against San Jose Councilmember Sam Liccardo. San Jose Fire Fighters Local 230 has endorsed Cortese, a choice that local President Joel Phelan says was an easy one.

"Getting Dave (Cortese) into office is the only way we can talk once again on legal reform, instead of vilifying public employees and making pensions the reason for all of the city's problems," Phelan said.



Dave Cortese

The race is widely seen as a referendum on the Reed administration, characterized by years of attacks on public workers and clashes with labor unions. Reed's 2012 pension-slashing Measure B helped fuel a mass exodus of law enforcement personnel from San Jose, producing higher crime rates in California's second largest city. San Jose has also lagged in its economic health, even as other cities in Silicon Valley have rebounded from the 2008 recession.

The 2014 race offers a clear contrast in substance as well as style. Cortese has been outspoken about his desire to end the city's war on public employees. Liccardo, on the other hand, was hand picked by Reed to head up the city's pension board in 2009 and shares the outgoing incum-

bent's penchant for demonizing pensions and public workers.

For firefighters and the citizens of San Jose, the choice is also one between moving forward and staying stuck in the past. Earlier this year, key provisions of Measure B were struck down by the courts. Reed has already initiated an appeal and vowed to take the issue to the state supreme court. Liccardo is expected to press that legal case, meaning more disruption in the city and disaffection among the work force. Cortese believes it's time to abandon the legal wrangling and seek future reforms at the bargaining table.

"If for some reason (Liccardo) is elected, the current regime will continue," Phelan said. "What we need right now is to bring in a fresh approach and get people back to the table. Our hope is to get Dave in and bring back some common sense to the city."

CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE POLLS?

Every election, you have the opportunity to stand up and help shape the future for all of California's working families.

Don't let last minute obligations silence your voice.

By registering as a permanent vote-by-mail voter, you can be sure that your vote will be counted, no matter where you find yourself on Election Day.

Tired of political mail pouring into your home?

Once a vote-by-mail ballot is cast, you're removed from almost all outreach lists, meaning the bombardment on your mailbox stops.

The deadline to register as a permanent vote-by-mail voter is Oct. 28, 2014.

Visit the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ca.gov/elections and sign up TODAY.



HIGH-STAKES RACE TO FILL POWERFUL L.A. SUPERVISOR SLOT

Los Angeles County supervisors are arguably the most powerful local elected officials in the country. Their districts are more populous than 14 U.S. states and substantially larger than any congressional or state legislative district.

An open seat contest in one L.A. supervisor's race is a big deal. This year – for the first time in decades – there are two open seat races.

"Without a doubt, this is one of the most important elections in the history of our local," said Dave Gillotte, president of Los Angeles County Firefighters Local 1014. "The county supervisors are also our fire district board, which puts them front and center on everything from pay and benefits to resources to our safety on the job."

With the stakes so high, Local 1014 has gone all in to support candidates that will stand up for firefighters, their families and their community, and the job is already half finished. Thanks in part to a strong push by the local, June primary voters elected Hilda Solis to fill the seat vacated by termed-out 1st District Supervisor Gloria Molina. "Hilda has been a warrior for us," Gillotte said of Solis, who served in the legislature and as U.S. Labor Secretary.

The open 3rd District contest to replace termed-out incumbent Zev Yaroslavsky will have a runoff this November, pitting former State Senator Sheila Kuehl against Santa Monica Councilman Bobby Shriver.

Kuehl, who also served in the



Sheila Kuehl

California Assembly, has a long history of support for firefighter issues, casting tough votes on controversial issues such as statewide binding arbitration and secure pensions. Kuehl enjoys overwhelming support among L.A. County's labor organizations, including the L.A. County Federation of Labor.

"Our local conducted an extremely thorough endorsement process and ultimately decided to support Sheila," said Gillotte. "We think she will be a strong, passionate voice for working people as a member of the board of supervisors."

As it has done in past campaigns, Local 1014 is putting money and manpower behind its endorsement. In addition to substantial financial support, Local 1014 also has a phone-banking headquarters that is utilized by much of the region's labor organizations during campaign season.

"The results of this election could impact the lives of our members for at least a decade or more," said Gillotte. "We plan to leave it all on the field in this campaign because the stakes are just too high."

SAN BERNARDINO FIREFIGHTERS MOBILIZE AGAINST MEASURE Q

Firefighters in San Bernardino are working to keep politics out of salary negotiations in the midst of the city's ongoing bankruptcy proceedings.

On Election Day, voters in one of the Inland Empire's largest cities are being asked whether or not they would like to radically alter the way that firefighter and police officer salaries are calculated. Measure Q would undo a long-standing charter provision setting salaries by averaging ten comparably sized cities, a move the local union will politicize the issue and ultimately harm the city's taxpayers.

"The city is trying to inject politics into the equation," said Jeff English, president of San Bernardino City Firefighters, Local 891. "We want to keep this process as objective as possible."

Under the existing charter provision known as Section 186, the city uses an impartial methodology for calculating base salaries, negotiating a list of ten

comparably sized cities and setting base salary as the average of those ten cities. The charter provision was designed as way to keep labor peace by establishing a neutral system for dealing with the most contentious issue – salaries.

"The current charter has taken the one issue that is often the largest catalyst for disagreement off the table," English said.

Should Measure Q be approved, says English, this impartial system would be abandoned. Local politicians would, he says, have pretty much complete control over what the city pays its first responders. Such a move would, say Measure Q's critics, add to the already toxic climate in the troubled city, prompting an exodus of experienced police and firefighters.

The backdrop for this proposal is the city's ongoing effort to declare bankruptcy and break its pay and benefit promises to city workers. The San



Bernardino City Council placed Measure Q on the ballot even though both the city manager and the charter review chairman publicly admitted that the existing Section 186 had no financial impact on the city's bankruptcy.

English maintains the Measure Q fight is not about finances, but instead is about finger pointing. San Bernardino city officials have zeroed in on firefighters as their political scapegoat, blaming first responders for the bankruptcy despite

strong evidence of mismanagement and overall poor decision-making.

While the union is staunchly opposing the charter amendment, English emphasized Local 891's commitment to the community and to getting the city's finances back on solid ground.

"We want the city to succeed," he said. "We love this community and want to continue providing the same high level of service we've been providing for the last 150 years."

Continued from page 1



Kamala Harris

Fresno Mayor Ashley Swearingen, has allied herself with those who would undermine the pension system that protects the security of firefighters and their families. Swearingen boasts a "marquee endorsement" from San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed – the same Chuck Reed who has crusaded against pensions in his own city, statewide and throughout the nation.

CPF believes California firefighters can't afford to give Chuck Reed a seat on the CalPERS board. That's why CPF has endorsed Betty Yee this November.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

As the state's top law enforcement officer, the attorney general has a critical role in protecting public safety. But the attorney general also is the one who writes the legal



Betty Yee

title and summary for every statewide ballot measure. It is the attorney general who ensures that the laws and amendments submitted to the voters, such as those calling for pension rollbacks, privatization of public services and attacks on your political rights are fairly and accurately represented on the ballot. Attorney generals also often go on to run for, and become, governor.

If you care about what goes on the ballot to help or hurt your future, you better care about who becomes attorney general.

CPF has endorsed Kamala Harris for reelection as the state's attorney general. Harris has aggressively prosecuted all manner of criminals, from violent offenders to corporate predators. She has also offered clear, fair-minded analyses and

language for ballot initiatives, resisting the pleas of ideologues to cook the results. Her analysis of Reed's most recent statewide pension initiative – widely held by independent analysts to have been balanced and fair – caused the San Jose mayor to drop his effort.

THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERSHIP

State Treasurer. The state's top investment officer and another member of the CalPERS board. If you care about your pension and building the state's future, you need to care about this office. CPF has endorsed longtime ally John Chiang, currently the state's controller.

Lieutenant Governor. A powerful voice for economic health, with the potential to be a visible advocate for (or against) public investment and retirement security. CPF has endorsed incumbent Gavin Newsom.

Superintendent of Public Instruction. This contest has become a stage from which labor's opponents have launched their latest attack on unions and in support of privatization. CPF has endorsed incumbent Tom Torlakson.

Propositions. Though none of the six measures on the November statewide ballot have the same impact on our profession as 2012's Proposition 32, two stand

out as important enough to firefighters to take a stand. CPF is urging a No vote on Proposition 45 and a Yes vote on Proposition 48.

STANDING WITH THOSE WHO STAND WITH US

When it comes to the political process, California Professional Firefighters is guided by its core mission: support candidates that have the strongest commitment to standing up for the lives, livelihoods and legacies of our first responders. Our endorsements for legislative and statewide office include Republicans and Democrats and are made by the CPF executive board in close consultation with our local affiliates. As it is on the front lines: loyalty matters. CPF has always stood by those who have stood up for firefighters and their families.

Now, it's your turn. California's firefighters are a respected voice for public safety in our state, but that won't matter if firefighters don't exercise that voice at the ballot box. Legislation pushed by CPF several years ago makes it possible for you to now register as a permanent absentee voter. Voting by mail is easy, painless and critically important to the continued health of a proud profession.

But whether you vote absentee or at the polls on November 4th, it's essential to vote in every race. Your future may well depend on it.

CALIFORNIA FIRE FOUNDATION FORMALLY LAUNCHES SAVE PROGRAM

As first responders, firefighters are often called upon to provide comfort to families on the worst day of their life.

Now, a new partnership being launched by the California Fire Foundation is hoping to make that task a little easier. Through the Supplying Aid to Victims of Emergency (SAVE) program, firefighters are helping victims take the first step toward healing by offering immediate financial assistance in the form of a SAVE card to those in need.

The SAVE cards are designed to provide

immediate on-the-scene aid to individuals and families whose residences sustain more than a 25 percent loss in a fire or other natural disaster. Issued by battalion chiefs coordinating the response to an incident, the \$100 SAVE cards offer families critical short-term assistance in the wake of a fire or other disaster.

Earlier this year, the program saw its first large-scale application after a 6.0 earthquake rolled through the Napa Valley, leaving homes destroyed and people displaced.

"In 20 terrifying seconds, the sud-

den violence of last Sunday's earthquake upended the lives of many Napa residents," said Lou Paulson, chair of the California Fire Foundation. "The SAVE program offers firefighters a way to provide some immediate comfort to those who may have been displaced from their homes."

While the SAVE program is not a substitute for the aid provided by the Red Cross or for state or federal disaster programs, it allows firefighters who are on the scene to help victims get through a night with some basic comforts, such as a hot meal or fresh clothes.

Before being rolled out statewide, the SAVE program was tested for several months in the Sacramento area, where first responders were quick to give the program glowing reviews.

"I was at the scene of a fire that destroyed

a family's kitchen, all their clothing and pretty much everything they had in their home. They were left with basically nothing," said Maurice Johnson, battalion chief for the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District. "As a firefighter, it was outstanding to be able to give that assistance. The family was almost in tears when we gave it to them. It was an amazing feeling."

To date, more than 30 departments have partnered with their employees and the CFF to provide this unique direct assistance service. The Foundation provides funding for the SAVE cards, supported by a major grant from Chevron.

More information on how departments can begin participating in the SAVE program, or on how sponsors can help fund the program, is available on the California Fire Foundation's website, www.cafirefoundation.org.



GIANTS, DODGERS HOST FIREFIGHTER APPRECIATION NIGHTS

While they may be sworn enemies on the baseball diamond, two of California's most storied franchises managed to find common ground this summer by showing love for the state's firefighters.

This past July and August, the San Francisco Giants and the Los Angeles Dodgers each hosted a "Firefighter

Appreciation Night." Together the events raised nearly \$20,000 for the California Fire Foundation through ticket sales and corporate sponsorship.

When it came time to honor the men and women who keep California's communities safe, the Giants were first at the plate, hosting roughly 2,000 firefighters at their June 10 game against the Washington Nationals.

In San Francisco, the celebration began in Seals Plaza, where attendees were treated to a pre-game tailgate party against the backdrop of the San Francisco Bay. Once inside AT&T Park, firefighters, their families and other supporters were treated to an on-field performance by the Pipes & Drums of California Professional Firefighters.

Later in the evening, Randy Sekany, the California Fire Foundation board director, was joined on the field by Lou the Seal, the Giants mascot, as well as representatives from the Giants organization and event sponsor AAA for a check presentation ceremony benefitting the California Fire Foundation.

Festivities kicked off in the Southland

about two months later, when the Dodgers welcomed attendees to a pre-game celebration outside Dodger Stadium before facing off against their Southern California rivals, the San Diego Padres, on August 19.

Here, thousands of attendees clad in Dodger blue made their way into the stadium to catch an on-field introduction of Foundation Chair Lou Paulson and Executive Director Hedi Jalon before watching Los Angeles Fire Chief Ralph Terrazas throw out the ceremonial first pitch.

Donations collected on both nights will go toward the California Fire Foundation's mission of providing emotional and financial assistance to families of fallen firefighters, firefighters themselves and the communities they protect.

ROCK TO REMEMBER

HEADS INTO THIRD YEAR

Members of San Ramon Valley Firefighters Local 3546 are looking to build upon two years of success this fall, hosting their 3rd Annual "Rock to Remember Concert" on October 18.

The event, an annual benefit concert for the California Fire Foundation (CFF) Endowment Fund, began in 2012 as a way to allow neighborhood fire departments, friends, family and local bands to come together while aiding in the Foundation's mission to support the families of fallen firefighters. In its short history, the event has become a huge success, raising more than

\$5,000 for the foundation in 2013.

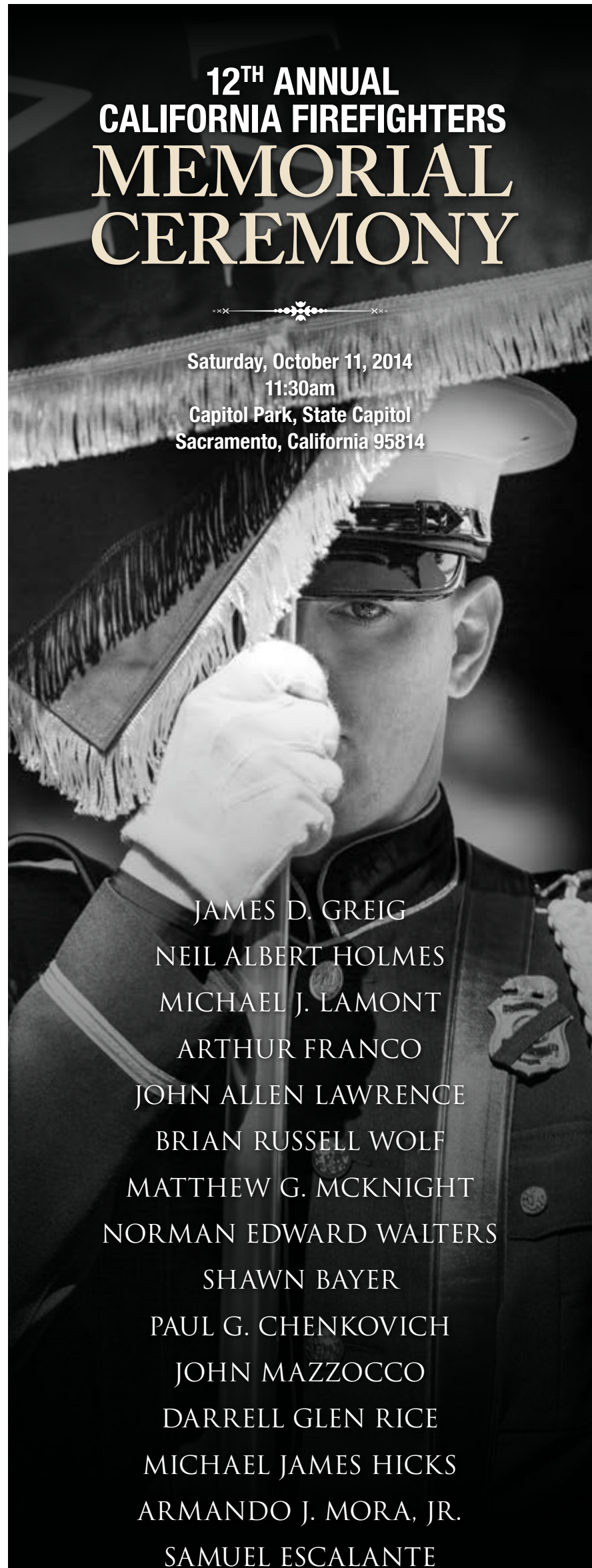
This year, the event will feature local bands Conscious Souls, The Risky Bisquits, The Slim Chances, Calm and Chaos and Hardwood.

Organizing an event like Local 3546's "Rock to Remember" can be a great way to bring people and communities together, have some fun and support a cause that is near and dear to the heart of our profession.


For more information or assistance organizing a benefit event for the California Fire Foundation, please contact Foundation Executive Director Hedi Jalon at (916) 921-9111 or hjalon@cpf.org.

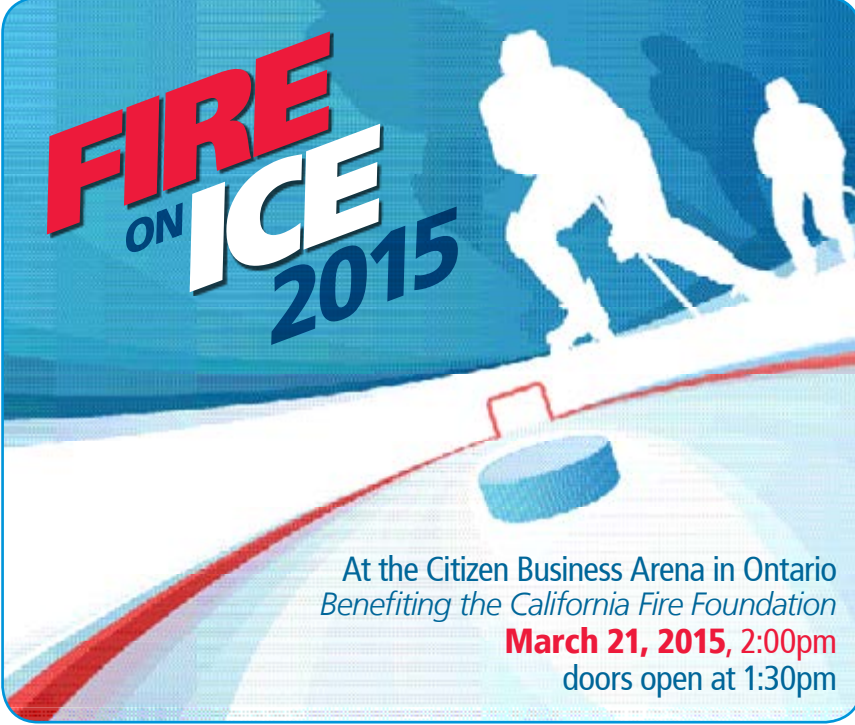
12TH ANNUAL CALIFORNIA FIREFIGHTERS MEMORIAL CEREMONY

Saturday, October 11, 2014
11:30am
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Sacramento, California 95814



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SAMUEL ESCALANTE

FOUNDATION  PARTNERSHIPS



FIRE ON ICE 2015

At the Citizen Business Arena in Ontario
Benefiting the California Fire Foundation
March 21, 2015, 2:00pm
doors open at 1:30pm

L.A. CO. FIREFIGHTERS SCHOOL LAWMAKER ON WHY APPRENTICESHIP MATTERS



A key member of the California Legislature got a firsthand look at the value of focused, standardized apprenticeship training in the fire service.

Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi (D-Torrance) was on hand in Palos Verdes late last August for a training exercise conducted with apprentice firefighters from the Los Angeles County Fire Department. The exercise – simulating a progressive hose lay in response to a wildfire – showcased the work of apprentice L.A. County firefighters, utilizing training protocols developed through the California Fire Fighters Joint Apprenticeship Committee (CFFJAC).

“It was much more involved than I expected,” said Muratsuchi, who chairs the Assembly’s Budget Subcommittee on Education. “I was impressed by how

well-organized and well-trained the firefighters were.”

Los Angeles County is one of many departments that has incorporated CFFJAC’s standardized approach into every aspect of its training. New hires at the tower begin their three-year apprenticeship training from curricula that incorporate the JAC’s core standards. Once in the station, apprenticeship training continues under the supervision of their station captain.

“There’s a lot to learn, but it’s well worth it,” said Los Angeles County apprentice firefighter Daniel Hathaway. “I want to be ready for anything on this job.”

The standardization of apprenticeship training takes on added urgency in the middle of what could be an extremely dangerous fire season. Wildland incidents routinely bring together units from differ-

ent parts of the county and strike teams from all over the state. Through standardized training, firefighters from throughout California are able to speak a common language, enabling them to work quickly and cooperatively when seconds count.

“We provide fire protection for 58 cities and cover more than 4,000 square miles,” said L.A. County Assistant Chief Tom Ewald. “The ability to interface with other crews and other departments requires standardization, and the JAC provides a framework for that consistency.”

After watching the training exercise, Muratsuchi spoke with apprentice firefighters and also toured the training center for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). Apprenticeship was born in the building trades and, as in the fire service, provides an important means of maintaining con-

sistent high standards in the profession. Through his position on the Assembly Budget Committee, Muratsuchi advocated increasing the state’s commitment to apprenticeship programs, a fight he plans to continue in the Legislature next year.

“These apprenticeship programs are valuable for making sure that our public safety workers and our building trades workers are trained so that they can serve our communities and our families well,” said Muratsuchi. “I plan to come back next year to push for more funding for these programs, which are critical to our safety and our economy.”

“The JAC serves as a core partner in the development of our workforce,” said Assistant Chief Tom Ewald. “Without the JAC, we’d have to develop singular L.A. County protocols. The world without JAC would not be a good world.”



CFFJAC CAREER EXPOS TARGET NEXT GENERATION of FIREFIGHTERS

Would-be firefighters from throughout California got a chance to get an up-close look at what it takes to become a first responder at CFFJAC's Firefighter Career Expos, held this past September at the Firefighter Candidate Testing Centers in Sacramento, Orange and Livermore.

Sponsored by the Commission to Recruit Women for the Fire Service, the expos saw fire departments from throughout the respective regions helping candidates get started, providing them with information about job opportunities and requirements.

"We are looking to build the next generation of firefighters, said CFFJAC Chair Daniel A. Terry. "The fire service is a great career for anyone with the skill, intelligence and commitment to service."

Prospects also got to try their hand at the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT), the test used to assess readiness for a career in the fire service. The CPAT consists of eight job-related events that must be completed within a set time. CPAT certification is considered a prerequisite for many fire departments throughout California.

In addition to direct recruitment and hands-on demonstrations, the expo featured several female firefighters – members of the CFFJAC's Women's Commission – running attendees through a presentation detailing "a day in the life of a firefighter."

"Generally speaking, we try to recruit from areas like the military or people who are adventurous," said Tracey Hansen, a member of the JAC Board and president of the California Fire Chiefs Association. "It's a great opportunity, and the Women's Commission doesn't just go out to recruit women, but underrepresented communities throughout the fire service."

The three expos drew hundreds of prospects from local high schools and community college career programs. The events also attracted many who previously thought a career with the fire service was out of reach.

"I never really thought it was an option," said Danielle Lovato, an expo attendee from Sacramento. "One day, I was driving and heard a fire engine. I pulled over and saw it was a woman driving. I thought to myself, I could do that."

As they have in past years, the 2014 Career Expos also provided the opportunity to reach out to military personnel transitioning to civilian life. The armed forces are built around many of the same principles and values practiced in the fire service, in particular the emphasis on conditioning, training and teamwork.

"Military personnel are fit, have the right work ethic and understand structure," said Wendy Dowdy, a retired firefighter who successfully transitioned into the fire service after a career in the U.S. Navy. "They know what it takes to get the job done."

CFFJAC LAUNCHES FIREFIGHTER CANDIDATE TESTING CENTERS

One-stop testing program builds on success of CPAT

Since 2004, the California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee has served the needs of departments and firefighter candidates through its CPAT Testing Centers. For almost as long, participating departments have urged the CFFJAC to add validated written testing to its services.

The vision of a unified candidate testing resource is now a reality.

The CFFJAC's Firefighter Candidate Testing Center (FCTC) will be the new one-stop resource for written and physical ability testing for firefighter candidates and fire departments. The FCTC combines rigorous, validated written testing with the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT), the acknowledged standard in measuring a candidate's physical capacity for the job.

"The JAC's mission has always centered around building a well-qualified, well-trained fire service for our state," said CFFJAC Chair Daniel A. Terry. "FCTC's comprehensive approach, including both written and physical ability testing, offers departments a pool of well-qualified candidates that can succeed in the fire service."

THE POWER OF APPRENTICESHIP

Since the CFFJAC began offering the CPAT, participating departments have trusted CFFJAC to provide the job-specific physical ability testing they need to ensure the highest quality candidates.

This same commitment to quality is at the heart of the Firefighter Candidate Testing Centers. The CFFJAC's three decades of experience in fire service recruitment, testing and training gives FCTC the tools to offer high-quality, relevant testing that will make it easier to match qualified candidates with the agencies that need them.

- **Written testing:** FCTC's written test is rigorous, fair and fully validated, with examples tailored to the needs of the fire service. Because the exam is administered on-site, integrity of the result is assured;
- **CPAT:** More than 30,000 prospective firefighters have taken the CPAT through CFFJAC's CPAT Testing Centers, and the CPAT Card of

FCTC
FIREFIGHTER CANDIDATE TESTING CENTER

Completion has become the default for most California fire departments;

- **Validation:** In addition to testing, FCTC takes the leg work out of the prescreening process by reviewing certifications and qualifications so departments get people who can do the job;
- **Recruitment services:** Through CFFJAC, FCTC candidates have access to recruitment services and mentoring to help guide their path. Through the JAC's Women's Commission, FCTC continues a commitment to helping build a fire service that reflects the communities it serves.

A 'WIN-WIN' FOR DEPARTMENTS AND CANDIDATES

For departments, the advantages of FCTC go beyond finding qualified recruits. Like the CPAT Centers, FCTC relieves departments of the expense of issuing the written and physical ability tests themselves.

For candidates, FCTC offers access to the state's recognized recruitment resource in the fire service. For a single fee, candidates have access to all the testing and recruitment services as well as a spot on the FCTC hiring list, if they pass the tests. Those who are unable to afford the testing fee can apply for a fee scholarship through the California Fire Foundation.

"Even with the economic crunch easing, the job market in the fire service is still highly competitive," said Terry. "FCTC gives departments a chance to pick from the best of the best, individuals who will succeed, not just survive."

The Firefighter Candidate Testing Centers are located in Orange, Livermore and Sacramento. For more information, check out www.cffjac.org or follow "Becoming a Firefighter" on Facebook and @BecomingaFF on Twitter.

THE NAPA EARTHQUAKE

LOCAL 3124 MEMBERS
AT EPICENTER OF
REGIONAL RESPONSE

When the ground shook him awake a little before 4:00am on a late August Sunday, Napa City Firefighters Secretary-Treasurer Zach Curren had a feeling it was going to be a long day at the office.

"I live in Fairfield, about 15 miles away from Napa," said Curren. I was home with the family and we all felt it pretty good."

Within two hours, Curren, and nearly every other member of Local 3124, was on the front lines responding to the largest earthquake in the Bay Area in a quarter century. The August 24th Napa quake lasted about 20 seconds and registered 6.0 on the Richter Scale. Although it was felt as far away as Salinas and Sacramento, the center of the quake was almost right underneath the city of Napa, considered the gateway to the Napa Valley Wine Country.

As with many sizeable quakes, the initial challenge was fire. At least half a dozen broke out in the immediate aftermath of the quake, including one in a mobile home

park that destroyed four homes. While Napa engines carry 500 gallons of water, the quake ruptured over 100 water mains, complicating fire response efforts.

"On some events, we knew right away because you could see the water bubbling up out of the street," said Curren. "We lost six structures in the first hour until we were able to get water tenders in."

While numerous other cities reported some quake damage and a flood of emergency calls, it quickly became clear that the most serious damage – and the most immediate need – was in Napa itself. With its small 36-member force stretched to the maximum, regional and state mutual aid response kicked in. Type-One strike teams from Napa County – a CAL FIRE contract county – arrived quickly, as did Napa's interagency USAR rescue team.

"We were taxed immediately," said Curren. "There were hundreds of 9-1-1 calls so we had to prioritize rescue and medical, fire and gas leaks at the top."

The immediate response of Local 3124's firefighters and those of other

agencies often came without full knowledge of what had happened to their own homes. "Many of our members live right in Napa," said Curren. "To their credit, nearly every one responded immediately, even though they knew they were basically committing to at least a couple of days non-stop."

In the end, one person died from injuries sustained in the quake. Nearly 100 others suffered injuries, only two of which were serious. Although a number of aftershocks rumbled through the area, none were serious enough to inflict major additional damage. Still, there was a substantial cleanup and salvage operation ahead. Media reports were full of images of smashed wine bottles from area wineries. Downtown Napa has a number of historic buildings, many of which suffered significant structural damage, including the department's own fire museum, located on Main St. in downtown Napa. The museum was one of dozens of buildings that were yellow- or red-tagged because of structural damage.

After more than a day working straight through after the quake responding to calls, strike teams were released and the department itself returned to normal shift patterns, though the volume of 9-1-1 calls remained high as late as five days after the shake.

While many Local 3124 members' homes saw significant content loss, none saw their homes destroyed or significantly damaged. When released from overnight duty, many went right back out into the community to help with the recovery. Off-duty Napa firefighters brought personal and rented trucks and trailers to nursing homes and elderly and disabled residents to help them clean up and remove debris.

"The response of our members, and of all the agencies that came in on mutual aid, was incredibly professional," said Local 3124 President Aaron Baracco. "They answered the call often without knowing what had happened to their own homes, and they continued to serve above and beyond the call even when the immediate threat had passed."



CALPERS DEPENDENT VERIFICATION IS UNDERWAY

Retired firefighters are being asked to keep an eye on the mail this month. Starting on October 1, CalPERS began the verification phase of its Dependent Eligibility Verification (DEV) project for public agency retirees. The project requires all CalPERS health plan subscribers with one or more dependents to provide supporting documentation to verify that their dependents are eligible for the health benefits they have been receiving.

Retirees can expect to receive a letter

outlining the process, as well as what types of supporting documents they are required to submit. Documents must be submitted by Nov. 20, 2014. If you have questions about the DEV project, you should contact HMS Employer Solutions – CalPERS contracted vendor – using the information included in your letter.

In the meantime, more information about the DEV project can be found online at www.calpers.ca.gov by clicking the "Health Benefits" link in the "Members" section.

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CALIFORNIA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS 2014 STATE CONSTITUTIONAL, LEGISLATIVE & BALLOT ENDORSEMENTS

AS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2014

CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES

Governor: **Jerry Brown**
Lieutenant Governor: **Gavin Newsom**
Secretary of State: **Alex Padilla**
Attorney General: **Kamala Harris**
State Controller: **Betty Yee**
State Treasurer: **John Chiang**
Insurance Commissioner: **Dave Jones**
Superintendent of Public Instruction: **Tom Torlakson**
Board of Equalization 01: **Chris Parker**
Board of Equalization 02: **Fiona Ma**
Board of Equalization 03: **Jerome Horton**

NOVEMBER BALLOT INITIATIVES

Proposition 45: **NO**
Proposition 48: **YES**

STATE SENATE

SD02 – Mike McGuire
SD06 – Richard Pan
SD08 – Tom Berryhill
SD10 – Robert Wieckowski
SD12 – Anthony Cannella
SD14 – Luis Chavez
SD18 – Robert Hertzberg
SD20 – Connie Leyva
SD22 – Ed Hernandez
SD24 – Kevin De Leon
SD26 – Sandra Fluke
SD28 – Bonnie Garcia
SD30 – Holly Mitchell
SD32 – Tony Mendoza
SD34 – Jose Solorio
SD36 – Patricia Bates
SD40 – Ben Hueso

STATE ASSEMBLY

AD01 – Brian Dahle
AD02 – Jim Wood
AD03 – James Gallagher
AD04 – Bill Dodd
AD05 – Frank Bigelow
AD07 – Kevin McCarty
AD08 – Ken Cooley
AD09 – Darrell Fong
AD10 – Marc Levine
AD11 – Jim Frazier
AD12 – Kristin Olsen
AD13 – Susan Eggman
AD14 – Susan Bonilla
AD15 – Tony Thurmond
AD16 – Tim Sbranti
AD17 – David Chiu
AD18 – Rob Bonta
AD19 – Phil Ting
AD20 – Bill Quirk
AD21 – Adam Gray
AD22 – Kevin Mullin
AD23 – Jim Patterson
AD24 – Rich Gordon
AD25 – Kansen Chu
AD26 – Rudy Mendoza
AD27 – Nora Campos
AD28 – Evan Low
AD29 – Mark Stone
AD30 – Luis Alejo
AD31 – Henry Perea
AD32 – Rudy Salas
AD33 – Jay Obernolte
AD35 – Katcho Achadjian
AD36 – Steve Fox
AD37 – Das Williams
AD38 – Scott Wilk
AD39 – Raul Bocanegra
AD40 – Marc Steinorth
AD41 – Chris Holden
AD42 – Chad Mayes
AD43 – Mike Gatto
AD44 – Jacqui Irwin
AD45 – Matt Dababneh
AD46 – Adrin Nazarian
AD47 – Cheryl Brown
AD48 – Roger Hernandez
AD49 – Ed Chau
AD50 – Richard Bloom
AD51 – Jimmy Gomez
AD52 – Freddie Rodriguez
AD53 – Miguel Santiago

AD54 – Sebastian Ridley-Thomas
AD55 – Ling-Ling Chang
AD56 – Eduardo Garcia
AD57 – Ian Calderon
AD58 – Cristina Garcia
AD59 – Reggie Jones-Sawyer
AD60 – Eric Linder
AD61 – Jose Medina
AD62 – Autumn Burke
AD63 – Anthony Rendon
AD64 – Mike Gipson
AD65 – Sharon Quirk-Silva
AD66 – Al Muratsuchi
AD67 – Melissa Melendez
AD69 – Tom Daly
AD70 – Patrick O'Donnell
AD75 – Marie Waldron
AD76 – Rocky Chavez
AD77 – Brian Maienschein
AD78 – Toni Atkins
AD79 – Shirley Weber
AD80 – Lorena Gonzalez

CONGRESSIONAL ENDORSEMENTS (FROM IAFF)

CD02 – Jared Huffman
CD03 – John Garamendi
CD05 – Mike Thompson
CD06 – Doris Matsui
CD07 – Ami Bera
CD08 – Paul Cook
CD09 – Jerry Mcnerney
CD11 – Mark Desaulnier
CD12 – Nancy Pelosi
CD13 – Barbara Lee
CD15 – Eric Swalwell
CD16 – Jim Costa
CD17 – Mike Honda
CD19 – Zoe Lofgren
CD21 – Amanda Renteria
CD24 – Lois Capps
CD26 – Julia Brownley
CD27 – Judy Chu
CD28 – Adam Schiff
CD29 – Tony Cardenas
CD30 – Brad Sherman
CD31 – Pete Aguilar
CD32 – Grace Napolitano
CD33 – Ted Lieu
CD34 – Xavier Becerra
CD36 – Raul Ruiz
CD37 – Karen Bass
CD38 – Linda Sanchez
CD40 – Lucille Roybal-Allard
CD41 – Mark Takano
CD42 – Ken Calvert
CD43 – Maxine Waters
CD44 – Janice Hahn
CD46 – Loretta Sanchez
CD47 – Alan Lowenthal
CD50 – Duncan Hunter, Jr.
CD51 – Juan Vargas
CD52 – Scott Peters
CD53 – Susan Davis

Protect your voice by using your voice

Register to Vote



Registering to vote is the first step in the democratic process and it's never been easier! Registration can now be done online at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_yr.htm. Deadline to register is October 20!

Vote by Mail



Years ago, CPF-sponsored legislation made it possible for firefighters to register as permanent absentee voters. Register to vote by mail or request a vote-by-mail ballot at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_m.htm.

Election Day



If you haven't already voted by November 4, get to the polls! Find your polling place online at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/find-polling-place.htm