



# CTPAC

## STATE OF THE STATE

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### Greetings,

Sacramento is all about the state budget these days. As of the writing of this article, the Legislature is still grappling with how to deal with our huge deficit. In order to solve the \$27 billion problem, the Governor has proposed a mix of painful cuts, shifting of services between the state and local government, and revenue by way of extension of the taxes approved in the 2009 budget deal. Every major component of the proposal is complicated and controversial and there has been no real consensus around many of the necessary parts of the proposal.

Perhaps the biggest issue in coming to a deal is the 2/3 vote of both houses required to put the tax extensions on the ballot, meaning at a minimum two Republican votes must be found in each house for approval. So far, the Republicans have not named their price for putting up those votes and it's not clear that the Democrats would agree anyway. What is clear is that without those tax extensions, the whole thing falls apart.

In terms of transportation specific items, the Governor has proposed reenactment of the gas tax swap that was passed in the last budget cycle but invalidated by Prop 26. All of the stakeholders in the transit and transportation world are supportive of reenactment because it maximizes the money to important programs. Unfortunately, Republicans are balking at putting up the votes necessary to achieve the 2/3 vote threshold on this one as well.

### **TEAMSTER SPONSORED BILLS**

While all of this budget mess is being resolved-or not-the grind of the legislative process continues on and we are at the point in that process where all of the bills have been introduced and are being set for consideration in their first committees. We have several of these bills that we are sponsoring with the hope that they will help our members in key areas. Here is a brief rundown of our legislation.

[\*\*\*SB 609 by Senator Gloria Negrete McLeod, \(D\) Chino\*\*\*](#), which would require the decision of a Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) administrative law judge to go into effect automatically if the PERB

Board fails to act on a management appeal within 180 days. This comes from an issue that Local 911 is having regarding representation decisions. However, the problem is widespread among all who are organizing public employees under PERB jurisdiction. When a union wins representation and a PERB judge confirms the election in favor of the union, the local government employer may appeal that decision to the full PERB Board. The process can take years to resolve and in the meantime the employees are left in limbo. It is our hope that this bill speeds that process up enough to ensure that our organizing campaigns aren't conducted in vain.

*AB 508 by Assembly Member Sandre Swanson, (D) Oakland,* would give a bid preference for waste and recycling employers who agree to retain the existing employees performing under the incumbent contract. This issue was brought to our attention by Ron Herrera of Local 396 to ensure continuity of employment for our members and to help organize in the industry. The idea would be to simply amend the existing employee retention bid preference that we did for Local 848 private transit operators to include these types of contracts as well. We will be working with locals around the state to ensure that this legislation is ultimately formulated in a way to make a meaningful impact.

*AB 514 by Assembly Member Roger Hernandez, (D) West Covina,* will be amended to resolve a long standing problem for our members that haul refuse from public works projects. In the first year of the Davis administration we sponsored a bill to extend the prevailing wage to the removal of refuse from a construction site. To get around the intent of this law, contractors began selling the refuse for a nominal fee, calling it something of value and, therefore, not refuse. Our fix to this problem is to sponsor this measure which, when amended, will tighten the definition of refuse in order to prevent this type of fraudulent behavior from occurring.

*SB 459 by Senator Ellen Corbett, (D) San Leandro,* is a cosponsored bill with the California Labor Federation to broadly address the widespread misclassification affecting workers in many industries. We are in the process of working out what types of provisions will be contained in the legislation but it will definitely be a comprehensive approach, from educating potentially misclassified workers up front to raising the stakes for employers who choose to skirt the law through higher penalties.

*AB 950 by Assembly Speaker John Perez, (D) Los Angeles,* would declare that all port drayage truck drivers are employees of those that arrange for or engage their services. This is a bill to help one of the largest groups of misclassified workers in the nation and is part of the long Teamster campaign to ensure that these drivers are able to eventually rise above what is right now a major component of the underground economy.

## **CPMA/TEAMSTERS**

Greetings Fellow Teamsters,

I'd like to introduce you to some of the newest members of the Teamsters Brotherhood: the 1,000 doctors of podiatric medicine who are members of the California Podiatric Medical Association (CPMA).

Doctors of Podiatric Medicine (DPM) are the premier medical providers specializing in the diagnosis and treatment of conditions and ailments of the foot and ankle. The breadth of treatment that DPMs provide is comprehensive: we see patients in outpatient offices and clinics as well as inpatient hospital settings; we prescribe prescription medications and admit patients to hospitals when necessary; our treatment capabilities cover the full range of conservative measures to reconstructive surgery of the foot and ankle. With this breadth of diagnostic and treatment capabilities, we work side-by-side with medical doctors (MD) and doctors of osteopathic medicine (DO), functioning as their colleagues on equal footing in the medical community.

The training of DPMs is substantial: following college, four years of podiatric medical school, followed by three years of residency training in foot and ankle medicine and surgery. Many will pursue more specific fellowship training afterward. Uniquely, podiatrists develop a specific understanding of the biomechanics of foot and ankle function and human gait, and apply this understanding to the treatments we render, to allow our patients to return to optimal function in ways that not only improve their foot and ankle symptoms, but their activity and health in general. Think of how we depend on our feet to keep us active and fit!

The California Podiatric Medical Association believes our relationship with the Teamsters provides several advantages, and is consistent with its mission "...to promote, advance and protect the profession of podiatric medicine, to preserve the rights of the patients it serves and to seek continuous improvement in the quality of patient treatment and care." We seek to ensure that all Californians have access to the services our members provide (currently this is not the case due to elimination of our services from the Medi-Cal program, and due to some restrictive health care plans that exclude our members). We also seek to ensure that our members' services are included in plans for health care reform, and that health care legislation in Sacramento serves to improve, rather than restrict, Californians' access to specialized foot and ankle care.

In future issues of this newsletter, you can expect to see articles from CPMA members letting you know more about what we do, providing information on various foot and ankle ailments and injuries, and helping you to keep your feet healthy both at home and in the

workplace. We are excited about our new relationship with the Teamsters; we encourage you to get to know your newest members and hope that you will take advantage of the services we provide. To learn more about podiatric medicine, and to find a Teamster podiatrist near you, please visit the California Podiatric Medical Association website at [www.calpma.org](http://www.calpma.org).

In Brotherhood,

Michael J. Cornelison, DPM  
President, California Podiatric Medical Association

Sincerely,

Barry Broad,  
Legislative Director, CTPAC