



Take a **STAND**
 this President's
 Day for what is
 right and fair!
 WV Legislators
 need to hear
 from YOU.

Every workday, WV public employees give their all to our employer and citizens. This February 16 on 'President's Day'...give **YOURSELF** 3 hours.



Public Employee Lobby Day

AFSCME WV Council 77 ~ AFL-CIO



**AFSCME WV Council 77 ~
 AFL-CIO**

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WHAT: Public Employee Lobby Day

WHEN: Monday, February 16, 2009 ~ 9:30 AM

WHERE: WV State Capitol ~ Charleston

Lobby Day is a one day event beginning with a morning briefing on our issues with coffee and continental breakfast provided as the Legislative leadership in the House and Senate talk with us and concluding with visits to Legislator's offices and to watch the legislative session in progress. Attendees are encouraged to car pool and arrive on Monday the 16th by 9:30 AM. Bring a neighbor or friend.

Directions and Meeting Location: Treasurer's Office east wing conference and training room (EB-54) on the basement floor under the Treasurer's main offices at the West Virginia State Capitol in Charleston.

Signs will be placed around the Capitol pointing to this meeting room and if you need directions to the Capitol from anywhere in the state, email us at Council77@aol.com or call 1-800-642-1983. On February 16 (Lobby Day) if you have any problems, call 304-541-2810 an AFSCME Staff person's cell phone.

Plenty of FREE holiday parking at the meters on Capitol grounds.

AFSCME ~ Public Employees Legislative Bills and Issues 2009

Pay Raise chatter ~ While we will be pursuing a salary increase that will move us up the pay ladder, we are learning that serious consideration is being given to a one-time increase (bonus) for all state and education employees in lieu of a salary increase that goes in to your base pay. Elected officials need to hear from you!

Collective Bargaining. The one bill that will allow WV Public Employees to bargain and ultimately receive better wages, benefits and working conditions. AFSCME and the AFL-CIO among others have been fighting for this since 1983. 2009 could be the year a level of fairness is reached based on the successful "Meet & Consult" trial programs and a new pro worker executive branch position at the state and federal levels.

Incremental Salary Raises. Revises W.Va. Code § 5-5-2, increasing incremental salary benefits (longevity) from \$60.00 to **\$100.00** per year of service. Additionally, this bill also removes the three-year waiting period to be eligible for the incremental increase.

Public Employees Insurance ~ Rising health care costs and changes to the PEIA program continue to chew away at public employees' paychecks. AFSCME West Virginia therefore proposes a return to the coordination of benefits for Medicare eligible retirees, re-define the 80/20 law to include all out of pocket expenses borne by employees in the calculation and better health care cost containment legislation.

We are about to start a new 2009 legislative session and AFSCME West Virginia has already met with the Governor and the state legislative leaders to gain support for our Legislative Proposals. All told, 41 states are facing budget shortfalls this year or next as we in the USA face the greatest fiscal crisis since the Great Depression. The House has just acted boldly to protect jobs and create opportunity in standing with President Obama. With 11 million workers unemployed, with home values declining at an alarming rate and the need for vital public services growing rapidly, hopefully the Senate will do the same. With federal help coming and the fact that West Virginia is currently in better shape than most states, we simply have to insist our Legislators and Governor be fair. Come to the State Capital on President's Day and help.



www.afscmewv.org 24 hours a day ~ 7 days a week

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**Your Lobby
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