



AFSCME WV Organizer

'Proudly representing thousands of WV State & City employees and Retirees'

MEET THE AFSCME WEST VIRGINIA 2004 LOBBY TEAM— Working for our members at WV Capitol

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'Labor Donated'



Left to Right:

Robin Wagner;
Council 77
Communications Manager,
Gary Zuckett;
AFSCME Lobbyist,
Kevin Boggs; Council
77 Executive
VP & Political
Committee
Chair, Rich
Patrick; Organizer/Lobbyist.

AFSCME members in West Virginia are represented at the State Capitol during the entire Legislative session. The Lobby team above is a mix of seasoned political veterans and eager novices who monitor the bills, talk to the legislators and support or oppose legislation

based on the best interests of AFSCME members.

Organizer and Lobbyist Rich Patrick (Local 3868) says there are 2 things every member could do to help their efforts at the Capitol.

~1. Talk to your co-workers

and others about joining AFSCME. Numbers mean a lot when you contact a Legislator.

~2. Call, write or e-mail YOUR Delegates & Senators. They all need to hear from constituents.

Kevin Boggs added, "ATTEND LOBBY DAY ON Feb. 16th."

Tell President Bush to withdraw his overtime pay take-away



Overtime pay cuts being pushed by the Bush administration are slated to go into effect for millions of workers unless Congress acts to block them. These changes would erode the 40-hour workweek and mean that if you receive overtime pay now, you might not in the future. Both the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House voted to oppose the Bush overtime pay take-away.

Now President Bush should withdraw his proposal.

Analysis from the Economic Policy Institute shows millions could lose overtime pay, possibly including firefighters, police officers, nurses, retail clerks, certain medical technicians, military reservists, state workers and many more. Under the Bush plan, you still may be forced to

work overtime hours—but you might not be paid for the extra hours.

Take Action Today!

If you use a computer, go to:

<http://www.unionvoice.org>

to send the President an e-mail **or** express your concerns by calling the White House comment line at:

202-456-1111



AFSCME West Virginia 2004 Legislative Goals

PAY INCREASES

Budget Bill: AFSCME lobbyists are working to change the Governor's proposal for no across the board wage increases for state employees, while understanding the realistic budget problems. It has been several years since state employees have had an increase, yet money is found for **many** other issues, raises and projects.

PAY EQUITY

The purpose of this effort is to provide for a gender-based pay equity salary adjustment for state employees, including the establishment of a method to determine eligibility and for the amount of the adjustment and supporting Pay Equity.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

HB # 2993 "**Public Employment Relations Act.**" This bill requires public employers to recognize and engage in collective bargaining with labor unions representing public employees.

ELECTED OFFICES

HJR #1, SJR #: "**The Fair and Equal Citizenship Act.**" This House Joint Resolution would put a constitutional amendment on the ballot to establish the right of public employees to run for the legislature.

PEIA

AFSCME is calling on a moratorium on any additional premium increase until the Governor proposes or the Legislature approves a salary increase for state employees and a cost-of-living increase for retirees. Support **HB4084** on Rx costs.

SAFETY & HEALTH PROTECTIONS FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

HB #2143: Expands state Safety & Health (OSHA) protections to additional public employee groups & agencies.

GRIEVANCE MEDIATION & ARBITRATION

HB #2227: Revising mediation procedures and authorizing arbitration for public employee grievance procedures

RETIREMENT

Several bills being monitored by AFSCME would raise the retirement multiplier for public employees retirement annuity and generally improve retirement benefits for existing and future public retirees in West Virginia. See link below.

SENIORITY

HB #2069: This bill would require the State Personnel Board to consider public employees' levels of seniority as a factor when awarding or withdrawing benefits under classified services. We also support **SB195** affecting higher ed staff.

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**Oppose all attempts to increase privatization or contracting out (such as Public-Private efforts and bills) of State Jobs. NO LAY OFFS!!

NOTE: The above is a partial list of the bills and goals being supported or opposed by AFSCME Lobbyists this year. For a complete list of every bill introduced affecting Public Employees and any bill's current status, go to: <http://www.legis.state.wv.us/>

To Contact your Elected Representatives on Issues:

Legislative Reference & Information Center
MB-27, Building 1
State Capitol Complex
Charleston, WV 25305
304 347-4836 toll free: **1- 877- 565-3447**

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*"I'd love to meet with your Union Committee...
but right now I'm buried in paperwork."*

The only thing that can currently overcome the 'wealth' influence on some of our elected officials, is YOUR involvement. Be seen, be heard and get involved. WV Public Employee Unions: AFSCME, CWA, LIUNA and UMW have a great program scheduled from 9 AM till 1 PM with political friends, lobbyist updates and bills to watch this session. Plan to attend with several others and call [800-642-1983](tel:800-642-1983) for more info.

'Continental Breakfast Provided'

WV PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' LOBBY EVENT

State (all agencies), County, Municipal and Higher Ed employees and retirees...Come to the WV Capitol & get involved on President's Day, February 16, 2004, 9:00 AM in the State Training Center, **Building 7**.

American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO
WV Council 77 www.afscmewv.org 1-800-642-1983

Use our Online Lawyers Directory to find a lawyer.

In legal matters, union members rely on expert advice. And to help find lawyers who can answer their personal legal questions, members can consult the Union Plus Legal Service. Our database of union-approved lawyers contains more than 1,900 law offices nationwide. The database includes lawyers who focus on many areas.

Free Lawyer Consultation and Review

No enrollment forms or fees are required. AFSCME members are automatically enrolled and are entitled to the following benefits for each separate legal matter:

- A free initial consultation with a lawyer of up to 30 minutes (in person or over the phone),
- A free simple document review and explanation
- A free follow-up letter or phone call, if likely to resolve a legal matter.
- Most additional services are discounted by 30% (including attorney's hourly rates and flat fees for most common legal cases).

All matters are handled between you and your lawyer on a strictly confidential basis. Only your lawyer will know you are using the service.

No other online legal service provides exactly this type of service. We also encourage union members (and attorneys interested in participating) to refer us to recommended lawyers. Please complete our Recommend a Lawyer Form. You can also comment on your experience with the legal service by completing the Lawyers Feedback Form available at www.afscme.org just click on AFSCME Advantage Benefits link.

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WE ARE ON THE WEB
www.afscmewv.org

Council 77 Officers:

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Kevin Boggs, Vice President
Charla Wallace, Secretary-Treasurer
Christine Stephens, Recording Sec.
"vacant", All Other Agencies
Darwin Watson, Cities & Counties
Hiram Justice, DHHR
"temporarily vacant", DOH
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