

Local 195 News

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL ENGINEERS, AFL-CIO

September 2022



Local 195 Members and Leaders Join Other Unions in Rally for Your Health Insurance

On September 13, a loud and proud contingency from Local 195 joined our sisters and brothers from across the Garden State to show labor's united opposition to recent proposals that would drastically shift the cost of health insurance to the state's public sector workers

"If New Jersey's health insurance program needs to balance its books, it must not do so on the backs of the hard-working women and men in the public sector workforce," said Local 195 Business Representative Gerald Newsome. "These are benefits that our members have earned, and we're not going to stand idly by while some misguided

penny pinchers try to take them away."

Matt Biggs, International President of IFPTE, noted that this budget-cutting tactic isn't unique to New Jersey. "All too often, those in power look to weaken the benefits our members have earned in order to cut costs, whether it be raiding our pensions or attacking our healthcare plans," Biggs said. "The right way to remedy any deficient funding is by making our tax system more progressive, not by increasing the burden on our working families."

The proposed change would raise premiums by about 20% for New Jersey's public sector workers. If passed, it would impact more than 800,000 workers at the local, county and state levels.

1. Local Union 195 members rally to protect state workers' health insurance ...

2. Governor Murphy succeeds in securing confirmation for pro-worker Justice to State Supreme Court (page 2)...

3. Local 195 raffle winners presented with iPads by union representatives (Page 2)...

4. IFPTE Local 195 members are eligible for exclusive benefits programs and discount offers through Union Plus (page 2)...

UPDATE: On Wednesday, September 14, the New Jersey State Health Benefits Commission voted to institute the 20% increase in employee premiums for its program participants. Working with a coalition of state employee unions, Local 195 was able to draft a tentative agreement with the state that would significantly reduce the increase for state employees to as little as 3%. Local 195 will continue to fight for ways to lessen the onerous impact of this ill-conceived move on the 800,000 state, county and municipal employees who participate in the program.

LOCAL 195'S STAFF AND OFFICERS CAN BE REACHED AT:

186 North Main Street
Milltown, NJ 08850
(800) 316-0351
(732) 247-0350
local195@local195.org
www.local195.org

Pro-Worker Nominee Set for Confirmation



Rachel Wainer Apter to Serve on New Jersey Supreme Court

After months of having her confirmation process blocked by a single anti-union state senator, Rachel Wainer Apter will finally get her chance to be appointed to the state's Supreme Court.

This follows intense negotiations by Governor Murphy and pro-worker leaders in the Senate to allow a vote to move forward.

Local Union 195 Business Agent Gerald Newsome noted that dislodging Apter's nomination was no small victory.

"Our friends in the State Senate went to the mat for us on this one," Newsome said. "Ms. Apter's critics had an issue with her experience in advocating for people's civil rights and her record on helping working families. We look forward to her being seated on the bench and believe her decisions will be fair, just and based on the law."

Ms. Apter currently serves as the Director of the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights in the office of Acting Attorney General Matthew Platkin.



IFPTE members are eligible for special financial programs, travel discounts and other exclusive programs through Union Plus. Find out more at unionplus.org.

Meet the iPad Raffle Winners!

Earlier this year, Local 195 held a raffle to give three iPads away to our members. This contest was part of the Local's efforts to show its appreciation for our members' dedication and professionalism throughout the pandemic. And the winners are...

Vineland Chapter Member, Glenda Brice!



On August 15, 2022, winner Glenda Brice was presented an iPad during Vineland's Chapter Meeting.

Central Jersey Corrections Chapter Member, Kathleen Kienzle!



On August 3, 2022, winner Kathleen Kienzle was presented an iPad during her break at work.

Greystone Chapter President, Jean Jennings!



On July 28, 2022, winner Jean Jennings was presented an iPad during her Chapter meeting.