



CALIFORNIA STATE EMPLOYEES UNITED

**PLEASE FORWARD TO OTHER STATE WORKERS**

March 10, 2008

## **Rank and File Left Behind in Boom**

Dear Local 1000 Member:

The *Sacramento Bee*'s recent decision to publish a web accessible database of state employees' salaries has stirred up quite a hornet's nest of reaction from Local 1000 members and other state workers.

**Ironically, because of all the energy focused on the database issue, another equally important issue has been totally ignored. The database was actually just a footnote to the March 4 *Sacramento Bee* article about pay for state workers. As usual, the article highlighted the "juicy" bits – the large salary increases received by top managers and administrators in some state departments.**

**But for you, the REAL story was the second part of the March 4 headline: "RANK AND FILE LEFT BEHIND IN BOOM."**

**Between September 2000 and February 2008, the Consumer Price Index—which is used to measure the cost of living—increased by 20.5 percent. During the same period, the total increase in state workers' salaries, as negotiated by the union, was less than 12.5 percent. To add insult to injury, the large dues increase that the Local 1000 officers rammed through means that state workers' pay lagged even further behind.**

**This is the real issue that should be making members angry.**

Following the *Bee*'s announcement of the database, Local 1000 leaders fired off emails asking Local 1000 members to sign petitions and to copy Local 1000 on any complaints emailed to the *Bee*. That sounds like the union is finally doing something to protect the members, right?

Wrong.

Sadly, as with most things the union hierarchy does these days, nothing is as it seems. As many activists in the union will attest, information gathered by the union for specific a campaign sometimes finds its way into the hands of those who use it for other purposes.

In mid-April, Local 1000 will hold elections to fill the four top officer positions in the union along with leadership posts in the fifty local chapters (called DLCs) statewide. In this digital

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CSEUnited is a grassroots effort by some rank-and-file members of Local 1000 to help bring about positive changes within the union. No union dues, fee or other resources were used to prepare or disseminate this information.

age, email is a very powerful tool for organizing campaigns. In addition, a successful get-out-the-vote (GOTV) effort requires access to names of “active” potential voters. So, when Local 1000 leaders start asking members to sign petitions and gather emails from “active” members, red flags start popping up.

**Given their woeful record on your pay, we can understand why the Local 1000 officers may want to use the privacy issue as a diversion. We hope you see through their ploy.**

For more information about your dues, your salary and your future, as well as news about the upcoming Local 1000 election, visit our website: [www.CSEUNITED.org](http://www.CSEUNITED.org)

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[View the chart](#) comparing the increase in the CPI versus the Salary Increases negotiated by Jim Hard and his crew.

Read the [March 4 Sacramento Bee article](#) that started it all.

**If you cannot open any of the links above, cut-and-paste the following links directly to a web browser:**

**Comparison between the increase in CPI vs. increase in state salaries:**

<http://www.cseunited.org/toolkit-hh-era-cpi-vs-pay.htm>

**March 4, 2008 Sacramento Bee article that started it all:**

<http://www.sacbee.com/101/v-print/story/758004.html>

**CSEUnited website:**

<http://www.cseunited.org/main.htm>

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