



Contacts:
Jennifer Munt
jennifer.munt@afscmemn.org
651-357-8544
Chris Williams
651-247-5539
Chris.Williams@edmn.org

Media Advisory for:
Feb. 24, 2018

Feb. 24: Working People Will Rally to End Rigged System As Hundreds Gather in Saint Paul at State Capitol Rotunda

*Saturday Event Will Highlight Crucial Role Unions Play in Building Better Lives
For Minnesotans as U.S. Supreme Court Prepares to Hear Case Attacking Workers' Voice*

SAINT PAUL—Members and leaders of labor unions, civil rights and faith groups, and community organizations will mobilize for the Working People's Day of Action rally that's expected to fill the State Capitol rotunda Saturday morning.

The organizations are standing up for the freedom to join together and work for the common good as the U.S. Supreme Court prepares to hear oral arguments in *Janus v. AFSCME Council 31* on Monday. An adverse decision in the case could undermine the right to form strong unions.

Saint Paul's rally is part of a nationwide day of action with events planned in cities across the country. Activists from the Twin Cities and others from around the state will join the call to end policies that rig the economy and the political system against working people—and in favor of powerful corporate interests and the wealthy elite.

Speakers at the Saint Paul rally will highlight the crucial role that union members play in building better lives for all Minnesotans. "For decades, teachers, nurses, police officers, firefighters and many others who provide the public services we rely on have joined together to speak up for themselves, their families and their communities," said Mary Falk, an AFSCME member who works at Anoka Technical College. "But those behind the Janus case do not want working people to have that freedom."

The rally will also recognize the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who 50 years ago in his final campaign supported striking sanitation workers in Memphis as they joined together in a strong union and demanded to be treated with dignity on the job.

EVENT DETAILS

WHAT: Working People's Day of Action Rally

WHO: The event is co-sponsored by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees; the American Federation of Teachers, the National Education Association and the Service Employees International Union.

Speakers will include:

Saint Paul Mayor Melvin Carter; Mary Cathryn Ricker, AFT executive vice president; an educator talking about how Education Minnesota helps members address student debt; Mary Falk, AFSCME Council 5 member; Asad Aliweyd, executive director New American Development Center; Adrienne Hoffer-Carter, Laborers Local 363 member; Deb Howse, SEIU Minnesota member; Brett Ohnstad, Teamsters Local 320 member; and representatives of other community groups and rights organizations.

WHEN: Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018
10:30 a.m. to Noon

WHERE: Minnesota State Capitol Rotunda
75 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, Minn.

###