



AFSCME-endorsed candidate U.S. Rep. Rick Nolan won his 8th District race over Republican millionaire Stewart Mills.

AFSCME Never Quits

Sisters and brothers,

Throughout history, working people have faced devastating setbacks in our pursuit of a better life. But even in the darkest moments, AFSCME members have pulled together and found the courage to fight on. The results of the presidential election and the loss of a pro-worker majority in the Minnesota Senate require us to muster the same resolve.

This is a crucial moment for our nation, our union and the middle class. The election of a man who opposes our fundamental values has left us all stunned. There will be time to analyze the results of the election, but we must meet our new challenges head on.

As AFSCME members, we will fight to protect public services, our contracts and our collective bargaining rights with greater urgency and determination than ever before. Our families, our communities and our lives depend on it.

Donald Trump has intentionally sowed fear and division with a campaign about personalities rather than policy. He now faces a decision about whether he will govern that way. We hope, for the sake of our nation and our diverse community – which includes women, people of color, those with disabilities, immigrants, and people of all faiths and traditions – that he will choose a different path.

Despite the outcome of the presidential race, we're united to protect our progress in Minnesota. The raspy voices and sore knuckles of our 700+ member activists and staff are a testament to our tireless get-out-the-vote effort. Our volunteers reached out, making more than 15,000 calls to our members in targeted districts. Then we joined our sisters and brothers at Area Labor Councils and Regional Labor Federations in more than 115,000 knocks and calls.

Our hard work paid off for many AFSCME-endorsed candidates. Beth Olson was elected to the St. Louis County Board and Debbie Goettel was elected to the Hennepin County Board. Two AFSCME members will join the Minnesota Legislature: Erin Koegel in Coon Rapids and Jamie Becker-Finn in Roseville. Steve Cwodzinski defeated Senate Minority Leader David Hann (R-Eden Prairie) and Erin Maye Quade picked up the Apple Valley House seat vacated by Republican Tara Mack.

AFSCME is a family and we are hopeful, inclusive and big-hearted. At a time like this, we don't slow down. We double down. We will fight every day to defend our contracts and to protect workers whose rights are under attack. We will never quit until every worker can earn enough to raise a family, own a home, send their kids to college and retire with security.

In solidarity,

Judy Wahlberg, president
Eliot Seide, executive director

AFSCME Members Win House Seats



Congratulations to AFSCME members Erin Koegel (left) and Jamie Becker-Finn (below), who both won seats in the Minnesota House of Representatives.

Koegel (Local 8) will represent District 37A. Becker-Finn (Local 2938) will represent District 42B.

Koegel is the volunteer coordinator for Community Action Partnerships of Ramsey and Washington Counties. She'll fight for investments in education, infrastructure and diverse employment opportunities.



Becker-Finn is an Assistant Hennepin County Attorney at the Domestic Abuse Service Center. She'll focus on education, mental health, conservation and domestic

violence prevention among her top priorities.

Council 5 is Hiring

AFSCME is looking for someone to lobby local and legislative government agendas. Find details at: <http://tinyurl.com/ol8tvby>. The application deadline is Tuesday, **Nov. 15** at 4 p.m.

Unity Wins Contract

Local 638 (Sodexo food services) approved a three-year agreement that includes a minimum raise of 50 cents an hour and 30 cents for those who have topped out; improved insurance premium sharing with the employer paying 75 percent for employees and 70 percent for families; more longevity pay; addressing worker safety issues; and a \$5 hike in the safety-shoe allowance.

Workers won the contract through unity, putting out member surveys, keeping members informed, having one-on-one conversations and hanging strong during negotiations.

They also had great support from the overall Local 638 (Minnesota State University, Mankato).

Locals Ratify Contracts

Local 66 (ISD 709 paraprofessionals) approved a one-year contract that includes a 2 percent raise; an additional half-week of sick leave; and an adjusted seniority bumping window.

Local 66 (ISD 709 food services) approved a one-year contract that includes a 2 percent raise and reinstatement of the cook position.

Local 1337 (Earle Brown Terrace) ratified a two-year contract with 2 percent raises each year.



AFSCME-endorsed candidate Steve Cwodzinski (center), with Council 5 public affairs director Jennifer Munt and executive director Eliot Seide, beat out State Senate minority leader David Hann in District 48.

Labor Ball is Here

AFSCME's Next Wave MN and the AFL-CIO Young Workers are hosting the free annual Labor Ball Thursday, **Nov. 10** from 6 p.m. to midnight at the VFW, 2916 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis. The free event includes food and dancing. This year's ball will raise funds for the MNA strike recovery fund. If you're interested in helping, mail checks to: Minnesota Young Workers, 175 Aurora Ave., Saint Paul, MN 55103.

Get in on the Action

Action Update publishes twice a month for locals and activists in AFSCME Council 5. Share an event by emailing: Lynette.Kalsnes@afscmemn.org or download a copy at www.afscmemn.org.

Mark Your Calendars

Event	Date	Place
Labor Ball	Nov. 10, 6 p.m. to midnight	VFW, 2916 Lyndale Ave. S., Minneapolis
Labor Movie Night, Newsies	Nov. 18 at 7 p.m.	United Labor Centre, Minneapolis