



AFSCME political organizer Zach Sias (left) and Local 599's Rick Neyssen door knock in St. Cloud for Dan Wolgamott for state senator and Zach Dorholt for state representative. AFSCME members are volunteering for worker-friendly candidates across the state.

## Standing Strong with Illinois

AFSCME Council 31 launched a media campaign urging Illinois Gov. Bruce Rauner to negotiate with state workers. He's entering his second year of blocking passage of an overall state budget, demanding approval of his agenda. He wants to hike state employee health care costs by 67 percent, freeze wages and step increases, and privatize government services.

Human service agencies are closing their doors, college students are going without aid, universities are facing layoffs and local governments are suffering – all because Rauner wants to break the union. AFSCME International and Council 5 have pledged to stand strong with Council 31.

Help by signing this petition: <http://www.keepillinoisworking.com/>.

You can also share this powerful video on social media:

<http://tinyurl.com/jayky53>.

## State Holding Job Fair

Do you have a friend or family member who would like to work for the state? They can learn how to get in the door at the first enterprise-wide State of Minnesota Career Fair on **Saturday, Oct. 29**.

The event includes an expo to learn about jobs at each state agency; networking with state recruiters and leaders; workshops on applying for state jobs and getting a resume review; remarks by Gov. Dayton and Lt. Gov. Smith; and headshots for LinkedIn profiles.

The fair runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Minnesota Senate Building, 95 University Ave. W., Saint Paul. Find more details online at: [mn.gov/careers](http://mn.gov/careers).

## Help Create Change

Election Day is nearly here, and there's still time to take action. The last Labor 2016 Day of Action is this **Saturday, Oct. 15**, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. We'll be door knocking for candidates who support workers and our families.

These are the same candidates that fellow workers and AFSCME members have carefully interviewed and screened.

You can find their endorsements here: <http://afscmemn.org/vote>.

If we help win back just seven seats in the House and retain the Senate, we can provide partners in good policy-making to Gov. Mark Dayton and help him get stuff done during his last two years in office.

You can take part at any of these Day of Action sites:

- AFSCME Council 5, 300 Hardman Ave. S, South St. Paul
- AFSCME Council 5, 1305 1st St. S, Willmar
- Duluth Labor Temple, 2002 London Road, Duluth
- Education Minnesota, 7242 Metro Blvd., Suite 200, Edina
- Sheet Metal Workers Local 480, 112 4th St. NW, Faribault
- East Central Area Labor Council, 4140 Thielman Lane, Suite 306, St. Cloud

For more information, in Duluth email [Zach.Sias@afscmemn.org](mailto:Zach.Sias@afscmemn.org) and [Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org](mailto:Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org) in South St. Paul.

## AFSCME Strong Update

AFSCME Strong is our program to determine our own destiny by building a stronger union with members who are more engaged. Sign a membership card to protect your job, defend our rights and preserve the quality of services we provide our communities. To reach our goal of 94 percent membership, we need to sign up **12,799** more workers.

## Locals Donate Generously

Numerous AFSCME Council 5 locals are reaching out to help steelworkers and striking nurses. Many steelworkers on the Iron Range have been out of work for more than a year and have exhausted their unemployment benefits. Locals donated more than \$4,300 at the annual AFSCME Council 5 Convention. Our locals also gave about \$1,100 to help Allina nurses, who will vote on a tentative agreement Thursday.

Find other convention highlights, including videos and a download of the Never Quit logo at: <http://afscmemn.org/highlights>. View convention photos at: <https://flic.kr/s/aHskHmzFZS>.



The Metropolitan Council recently recognized employees for outstanding service, including workers from AFSCME Local 668. They include (from left) Matt Loyas, Terry Museus, Lisa Dyste, Kim Borman (former member), Craig Skone and Steve Victory.

## Free College for Members

AFSCME is excited to announce a new benefit for members, families and retirees: a free associate degree from Eastern Gateway Community College.

The AFSCME Free College Benefit helps members secure the opportunities and the respect you deserve. The program is also designed to be flexible: You can take online classes that fit your schedule. Get details at: <http://afscmemn.org/college>.

You'll need your AFSCME International number to apply. If you don't have one, you can

call AFSCME International at 202-429-1000.

## Apply for Scholarship

The AFSCME Family Scholarship for 2017 is now taking applications. Children of full dues-paying members can apply for one of 10 scholarships, worth \$2,000 a year for

up to four years. The postmark deadline is **Dec. 31**. Learn more at: [www.afscme.org/family](http://www.afscme.org/family).

## Labor Movie Night

This free monthly event includes a double feature **Friday, Oct. 21** of the documentaries *Delano Manongs* and *Who Killed Vincent Chin?* It starts at 7 p.m. at the East Side Freedom Library in Saint Paul.

## Get in on the Action

Action Update publishes twice a month for locals and activists in AFSCME Council 5. Download a copy at [www.afscmemn.org](http://www.afscmemn.org) or share an event by emailing: [Lynette.Kalsnes@afscmemn.org](mailto:Lynette.Kalsnes@afscmemn.org).

### Mark Your Calendars

Event	Date	Place
Labor 2016 Day of Action	Oct. 15, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.	Locations across Minnesota; Contact <a href="mailto:Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org">Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org</a> or <a href="mailto:Zach.Sias@afscmemn.org">Zach.Sias@afscmemn.org</a>
Labor Movie Night	Oct. 21 at 7 p.m.	East Side Freedom Library, Saint Paul
Election Day	Tuesday, Nov. 8 The polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.	Find your polling place: <a href="http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/">http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us/</a>