

# The LINK

International Brotherhood of Electric Workers, Local Union No. 702

July, 2017



## SPECIAL EDITION!!!

# VOTE **NO** PROP A

#ProtectYourPay

On February 6th, 2017, then Governor Eric Greitens made a special trip to Poplar Bluff, Missouri for a public “ceremonial” signing of the newly passed Right To Work For Less law. As with all passed and signed legislation in the State of Missouri, it would take effect on August 28th of the same year. But little did our opponents know, we had a plan to beat back this attack on working families.

Marshalling an army of labor activists, Union members, and community volunteers, the Labor Movement utilized a seldom-used process of collecting signatures from voters throughout the State to place the issue on the ballot so that Missourians would have final say.



Citizens may call a referendum on a measure approved by the General Assembly and not vetoed by the governor. Although the referendum petition was regularly used in Missouri during the early 20th century, the last time it was used was 1982.

Needing just a little over 100,000 qualified signatures, on August 18th, 2017, 310,567 signatures were submitted to the Missouri Secretary of State’s office. This eventual lead to a temporary enactment of the legislation so that the voters in Missouri could have their voices heard in determining the Labor Policy for the State.

Under this process, very few believed Missouri’s 8th Congressional District (Southeast Missouri) could or would qualify. But, due to the effort of so many, history was made as the 8th Congressional District and all eight (8) Congressional Districts qualified under this process. August 18th, 2017 was an extremely proud day for the Labor Movement in Missouri. Now, let us continue the work that needs to be done on August 7th.

*The challenges that lay ahead of us, regardless of the size or duration, are no match for our members.*

*Too often, when others think they have our backs to the wall, our members find the strength, courage, and resolve to weather any storm, and the tenacity and veracity with which they respond to any attack, always makes us proud.*

*For our members in Missouri, with last year’s passage of Right To Work, no greater threat has come to them and to their ability to earn a decent, respectable living since 1978.*

*Fortunately, our members worked tirelessly last year to make sure voters of Missouri would have the final say.*

*~ Steve Hughart,  
Business Manager*

  
**THE MEDIAN  
HOUSEHOLD  
INCOME**

IS AN AVERAGE  
**\$8,740  
LESS**  
IN RTW STATES



#RepealRTW

#NoOnPropA

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## Business Manager's Message



**Steve Hughart,  
Business Manager**

This is a special message to all of our Missouri members. First of all, if I haven't already done so in person, please allow me to thank you all and recognize what you did last year. I know many of you signed and help collect signatures for the petition to put Proposition A (Right To Work For Less) on the ballot this year. This had never been accomplished before in the history of the State of Missouri, in the 8th Congressional District, and your efforts raised eyebrows across the nation. I'd like to congratulate you on a job well done.

Unfortunately, our work is only half done. Getting the issue on the ballot was the first step. Repealing this horrendous piece of legislation is what needs to happen next. I can go over many of the reasons why we oppose Right To Work For Less legislation, but the simple fact comes down to this — they are trying to take money out of your pocket, and we don't accept that. So, however you need to get to the polls on or before August 7th — I would encourage everyone to take advantage of absentee voting in the State of Missouri, so that last minute emergencies such as storms or possible personal matters don't take away your ability to vote — and make sure the politicians in Missouri don't weaken your ability to obtain a decent living.

Finally, we all need to think about the political process past August 7th. Currently, even though Missouri has recently experienced the resignation of its top elected official, the fact of the matter remains that a majority of those in the Capitol passed this legislation and the sitting Governor at that time signed it, and it was scheduled to take affect last August 28th. It was only through the signature petition process that we were able to delay, and hopefully stop, this from becoming law. If we don't look at each candidate's specific stance with regard to this issue, REGARDLESS OF POLITICAL PARTY, and many other working-family related issues like it, and vote accordingly, we may find ourselves right back here in a matter of months.

Thank you all for what you do on a daily basis. The job you all perform brings honor and pride to our Local and I am proud be associated with each and every one of you.

## From your President

Brothers and Sisters: Please allow me a point of personal privilege in this edition of The LINK. I know this issue is solely devoted to our members in Missouri, and would like to weigh in on what you have done and what you need to do.

Last year, when we learned that the Missouri legislature passed Right To Work early in the session, with the Governor signing it on February 6th, 2017, many inside of and out of the Labor Movement wondered how Missouri would react. And boy did you all react.

Knowing that it took over 100,000 signatures to get this issue placed on the ballot seemed a daunting task, especially given the short time frame in which to do so. But, thanks to the tremendous effort of so many of you, over 310,000 signatures were turned in last August, and for the first time in the State's history, the 8th Congressional District qualified under this process. This proved to everyone that Southeast Missouri is alive and well with the heart-beat of Labor pumping through its veins.

I want to personally pass on to everyone my appreciation and thanks for what you achieved to date.

Now, our work is not done. You must get to the polls on or before August 7th and Vote NO on Prop A as we seek to overwhelmingly defeat this horrible piece of legislation that serves to fatten the pockets of the corporate elite, like the Koch Brothers, who pursue this type of legislation.

Please do whatever it takes to vote, including visiting your County Clerk's office and voting absentee if you have a day off between now and August 7th, and act like your financial future depends on it, because it probably does.

Finally, thank you for all that you have done, and all that you will do, now and in the future.

In Solidarity,  
*Jim Sanchez*



**Republicans.**  
**Democrats.**  
**Independents.**  
**We ALL know Prop A**  
**is WRONG for Missouri!**

**VOTE NO PROP A**

**PROP A**  
**WILL LEAD TO**  
**— LESS —**  
**JOB SECURITY**

**VOTE NO PROP A**

**#ProtectYourPay**  
**Vote August 7th**

**CEO SALARIES**  
**364 X**  
**HIGHER IN RTW STATES**

**#RepealRTW** **WE ARE MO** **#NoOnPropA**



In an effort to make sure you vote in this August 7th, Primary Election, here are the Missouri absentee ballot rules:

You can vote by absentee ballot in Missouri if:

- you will be absent from your voting jurisdiction on Election Day
- you are incapacitated or confined due to illness or physical disability, or caring for an incapacitated person
- you are restricted by religious belief or practice
- you are employed by Election Day authority
- you are incarcerated, but have retained all your voting qualifications

**YOU WILL NEED A PHOTO ID TO VOTE, EVEN ON ELECTION DAY!**

*In an effort to make sure all of our Missouri members cast their ballot in this year's Primary Election, we encourage everyone, if you have any time between now and Election Day to visit your County Clerk's Office during normal business hours and proceed to vote ABSENTEE if any of the above scenarios are applicable or possible.*

**Bollinger County**

204 High St Ste 5  
Marble Hill, MO 63764

**Butler County**

100 N Main Rm 202  
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901

**Cape Girardeau**

**County**

1 Barton Square  
Suite 301  
Jackson, MO 63755

**Carter County**

105 Main Street  
Van Buren, MO 63965

**Dunklin County**

Courthouse Square  
Room 201  
Kennett, MO 63857

**Iron County**

250 S. Main Street  
Ironton, MO 63650

**Mississippi County**

200 N Main Street  
1st Floor  
Charleston, MO 63834

**New Madrid County**

450 Main Street  
New Madrid, MO 63869

**Pemiscot County**

610 Ward Avenue  
Suite 2-A  
Caruthersville, MO 63830

**Perry County**

321 N. Main Street  
Suite 2  
Perryville, MO 63775

**Ripley County**

Ripley County Courthouse  
100 Courthouse Square  
Suite 2  
Doniphan, MO 63935

**Scott County**

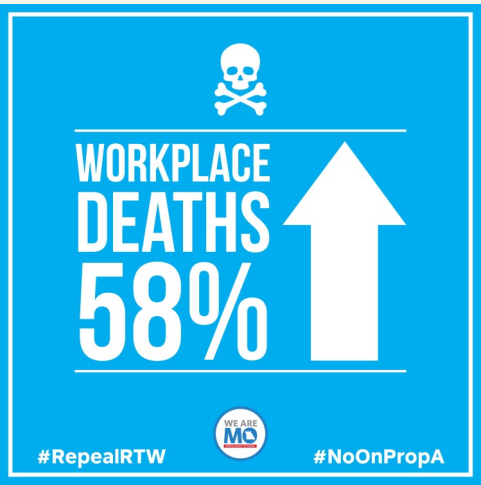
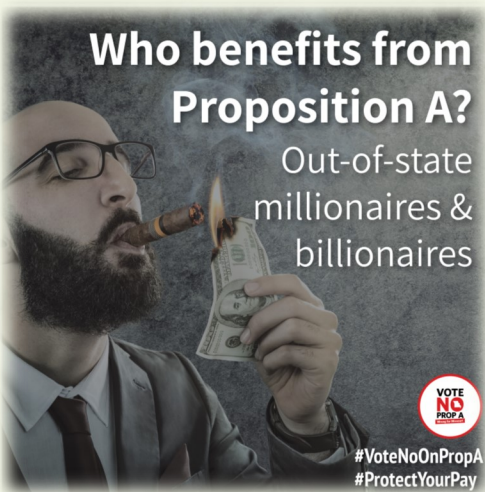
131 S Winchester St  
Scott County Courthouse  
Room 105  
Benton, MO 63736

**Stoddard County**

401 S. Prairie  
Bloomfield, MO 63825

**Wayne County**

109 Walnut Street  
Greenville, MO 63944



**IBEW Local 702**

106 North Monroe

West Frankfort, IL 62896

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

If unions aren't needed anymore  
why are corporations spending  
billions to destroy them?  
Stop Right to Work in Missouri

**IBEW Local 702 Political Statement**

**HOW** you vote on any particular issue or candidate is completely a personal and private matter. However, we feel it is our duty to research candidates and issues that affect our members and their families. Upon reaching a comfortable level of information and assurances, and usually in conjunction with other Labor organizations, we disseminate information to our members to educate them on such matters. The issue of Proposition A in Missouri is one of known consequences and dreadful impacts on working people. Please consider our suggestions when you make your selections. Thank you.

***IBEW Local 702 ~ Building a better future for working families!***

**IBEW Local 702**

106 North Monroe  
West Frankfort, IL 62896  
(618) 932-2102

Office Hours:  
Monday through Friday  
8:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m.

***ibew702@ibew702.org***

