

IOWA AFL-CIO NEWS



Volume 18, Issue 1

Official Publication of the Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO

June 2018

The Secretary-Treasurer's Notes . . .

We've Reached The End Of Session

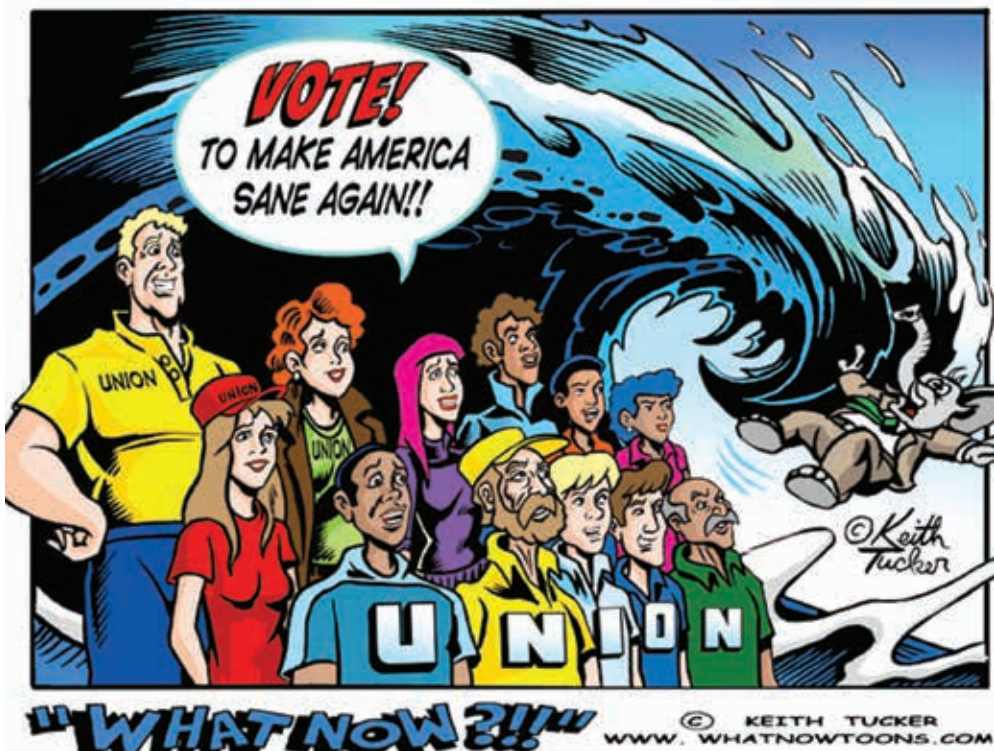
By Charlie Wishman,
IFL Secretary-Treasurer

Do you wish that your union would “just leave politics alone?” That’s a nice thought. The unfortunate truth is that politics won’t leave your union, your rights at work, and your life alone.

A general assembly lasts two years. It is not exaggeration to say that this has been some of the toughest two years that organized labor, and workers in general have faced. It is an election year. We don’t and won’t tell you who to vote for. What we will do, is show you who votes what way, what the bills that affect workers do, and recommend you stand with people who either have stood with you, or pledge to stand with you.

If you are a public worker:

Almost all your bargaining rights have been stripped away, for absolutely no reason other than because the people in charge of this state do not value your work, believe you are a second-rate citizen, and want you to be paid less and have few if any benefits. Even if your representative was a Republican who voted “no” on the final bill, they passed up every opportunity to stop the bill, to vote no on amendments, and never spoke against it one single time. Not one time. They are not your friends, they are just trying to fool you. I



am confident that public employees reading this are no fools.

They repeatedly say there will be no changes to your retirement systems “this year,” because this is an election year. They do want to destroy IPERS like they gutted your collective bargaining, but this time, they gave you a window, a chance, an opportunity, to make a difference before they attack. Just like collective bargaining they won’t campaign on it, but I’d bet my bottom dollar your pension will come under attack next year if things do not change.

If you work in the building trades:

You weren’t spared either. This legislature chipped away at Davis – Bacon, which are your wages. They also ended project labor agreements on public projects, again going after your wages, benefits, and job opportunities. They even outlawed asking a contractor on a project simple questions such as, “have you been convicted of fraud?” or “Do you have a qualified workforce for this project?” or “What do you pay your employees?” They have opened the opportunity for app-based construction employers to not have to pay workers compensation or unemployment insurance (though we did work to ensure workers must be licensed at the minimum).

They have also tried everything they can to make this state a low bid, low wage, low skill state. Unless you turn this around, Iowa will continue to race to the bottom for wages. You may, or may not see it today in your paycheck, but you will.

If you work in manufacturing, food processing, or steel:

This legislature, swept into office on “Making America Great Again,” voted to allow the state to stop using US manufactured steel and other American made products on road and bridge projects. They would rather use cheap Chinese products with taxpayer money than yours. Also, see what they did to your workers’ compensation below.

If you work for a living and could be injured (that’s anyone):

Workers Compensation has taken a beating the past two years. The changes this legislature approved automatically presumes that any trace of drug or alcohol is the cause of an accident, and the burden of proof to say it wasn’t is now on the worker. Perhaps the main and most harmful changes to workers compensation law is how shoulder injuries are treated. What was once considered a body of the whole industrial injury now is only covered

for 400 weeks and reduces compensation for those injuries as well. Nothing in these workers compensation changes do anything to lower health care costs, except for making it harder for workers to obtain benefits.

If you care about your state:

This Governor and this legislature has continued to mismanage the state budget. For the second year in a row, there was a need for mid-year budget cuts it was so mismanaged. At the same time, they are passing billion-dollar tax cuts skewed toward the wealthy and corporations. No surprise, its because they want to reward their donors going into an election year. It doesn’t take a math genius to know that this is a recipe for disaster.

These disasters include underfunding mental health, underfunding education, underfunding our corrections system to the point people are getting stabbed.

We Fought – and We Fought together

Corporate and insurance lobbyists (some of these corporate vampires call themselves Democrats) along with Senate Republicans attempted to criminalize the workers compensation system, but we stopped them, together. These same people tried to eliminate unemployment in all circumstances except for in a layoff situation, taking no other circumstances into account. These same people introduced a million different schemes to make Iowa a low-wage nightmare, and we fought back more than I can list, together.

We won some, but we lost most of the time. It’s just the cold, hard, facts. It wasn’t because we didn’t try hard enough, organize hard enough, and it wasn’t because we didn’t have solidarity, it was because those were the cards the voters dealt to you in 2016.

For decades men and women have stood up to power and fought for each other. It is your turn. The power, and the choice about what you do, is in your hands.



Voter Info For June 5th Iowa Primary Elections

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2018 Elections . . . IFL Endorsements

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The President's View . . .

So, What Are You Going To Do?

Imagine a sailor standing on the deck of her sail boat thinking about the amazing breeze at her back. So,



IFL President Ken Sagar

does she send out a clever, factful text or Facebook post or does she do the hard work to raise the sails and take advantage of the circumstances?

There you have the current political climate. Many are predicting a good election this year for candidates who support working families. Crystal balls aside, we seem to have a lot of energy, many candidates and motivated people who want to see change, want to have an economy that works for all of us and not just some of us.

The question is: Will you be satisfied with Facebooks posts that re-

quire a few key strokes or are you willing to work to take advantage of the circumstances that look favorable?

The Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO has worked hard to put together a good program, provide good information and we are waiting, albeit not too patiently, for those committed activists to step up and do the hard work necessary to be successful.

We have seen the consequences of a bad election first hand. Workers rights attacked, rights for injured workers set back decades, voter sup-

pression efforts, unemployment bills that make a mockery of the system are just a few of the laws that have been upended in the current Iowa legislative sessions. The tax bills that take money from insufficient revenues are going to put our budget in jeopardy for possibly decades.

So, what are you going to do, pound a few keys or pound a few doors? If you want to tell your kids and grandkids that you were on the frontlines to take back Iowa from the far right, come and help us raise the sails and chart a new course for Iowa.



IN UNITY THERE IS STRENGTH

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Working Iowa Neighbors

In 2009 the Iowa AFL-CIO established the WIN program. The program was designed to assist area labor federations elect labor-friendly candidates to local offices. Since it's inception, the WIN program has been very successful. With the assistance of WIN committees, area labor bodies have elected numerous candidates. WIN has expanded its capacity and focus and

has helped with local contract fights, organizing campaigns and has helped shape local policies in areas. Please consider attending one of the WIN meetings listed below. The program is continuing to grow, and meetings are open to all labor unions and allied groups.



For more information contact: Ben Murry, Organizing Director at ben@iowaaflcio.org or 515-205-2595.

WIN Committee	Meeting Day	Time	Venue	Address
Waterloo	4th Wednesday	6pm	UAW Local 838	2615 Washington St, Waterloo
Sioux City	2nd Tuesday	5pm	UFCW Local 222	3038 S Lakeport St, Sioux City
Fort Dodge	1st Tuesday	5pm	UFCW Local 6	1200 3rd St. NW, Fort Dodge
Cedar Rapids	4th Monday	5:30pm	IBEW Local 405	1211 Wiley Blvd SW, Cedar Rapids
Council Bluffs	3rd Monday	6pm	IAFF Local 15	1827 S. 8th St., Council Bluffs
Algona	3rd Thursday	5pm	Algona Senior Center	1306 N Main St, Algona
Creston	4th Thursday	5pm	The Windrow Restaurant	102 W Taylor St, Creston
Mason City	4th Thursday	6pm	Labor Temple	510 S. Pennsylvania, Mason City
Marshalltown	4th Wednesday	5:30pm	UAW Local 893	411 Iowa Ave W, Marshalltown
Dubuque	3rd Thursday	6pm	Labor Temple	1610 Garfield Ave. Dubuque
Clinton	1st Monday	6pm	Clinton Labor Congress	226 22nd Place, Clinton
Davenport	2nd Tuesday	6pm	UFCW Local 431	2411 W Central Park Ave, Davenport
Muscatine	4th Monday	6pm	ISU Extension Office	1514 Isett Ave., Muscatine
Lee County	4th Tuesday	6pm	UFCW Local 617 (Odd Months) Labor Temple (Even Months)	728 1/2 Avenue G, Ft. Madison (Odd Months) 301 Blondeau Street, Keokuk (Even Months)
Burlington	2nd Monday	6pm	IAMAW Local 1010	16452 Hwy 34, West Burlington

Iowa Labor History Oral Project Wins National Awards

By John W. McKerley,
Oral Historian,
Iowa Labor History Oral Project,
University of Iowa Labor Center

The Iowa Labor History Oral Project (ILHOP), an oral history collaboration led by the Iowa Federation of Labor, has won two national awards for its ongoing work preserving and promoting the history of the Iowa labor movement. The awards, one from the American Library Association (ALA) and the other from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), confirm and contribute to ILHOP's place in the forefront of labor-focused historical projects across the nation and around the world.

On March 27, 2018, the AFL-CIO's Department for Professional Employees announced that ILHOP had received the John Sessions Memorial Award from the ALA. The award acknowledges the work of ILHOP and its partners in preserving Iowa's labor and working-class history and making it accessible to a broad public audience.

In particular, the Sessions award highlights the long-term commitment of Mary Bennett, collection coordinator at the State Historical

Society of Iowa in Iowa City (SHSI), the project's original home. As the ALA noted in its award announce-

ment, "Over decades, Bennett has facilitated accessions of union-donated materials to create a

now extensive archive of labor union records, newsletters, newspapers, and other printed material to complement the oral history interviews." Previous Sessions Award winners include the Walter P. Reuther Library in Detroit, Michigan, the State Historical Society of Wisconsin in Madison, and the National Association of Letter Carriers Information Center in Washington, DC.

Shortly after the announcement of the Sessions award, ILHOP staff received word that the project had also won an almost \$200,000 grant from the NEH to transcribe and index over 350 interviews. The new indexes will join over 700 previously indexed interviews to form an online ILHOP Digital Index. Once complete, the digital index will make it possible for a wide range of users, from schoolchildren to rank-and-file union members and professional researchers, to access detailed information about Iowa

workers, unions, families, communities, businesses, and politics for over a century.

The NEH grant comes on the heels of a 2017 grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission to digitize approximately 1,100 taped interviews and transcripts and to make them accessible through the University of Iowa Libraries' Iowa Digital Library. These interviews can be found online at the following address: <http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/cdm/search/collection/ilhop>.

ILHOP was founded in the 1970s. The project was the brainchild of IFL president James Wengert, who hoped to use it as a means by which to document workers' lives and to share their stories with other Iowans. Since the 1970s, ILHOP has become a joint project of the IFL, SHSI, UI Labor Center, UI Libraries, and the Iowa Labor History Society. Labor Center Director Jennifer Sherer administers the project, which is managed on a day-to-day basis by oral historian John McKerley, who can be reached at john-mckerley@uiowa.edu.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
62nd Annual Convention
September 19-21, 2018

Watch for Convention Call in July

"Working Together For All Iowans"

The Meadows at Prairie Meadows
 1 Prairie Meadows Drive,
 I-80 Exit 142
 Altoona Iowa

VOTE!!

THE POWER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IS IN YOUR HANDS

Voter Information For June

CHANGES IN VOTER LAWS

IOWA CONGRESS

Effective Beginning with the Elections

Historical Landscape

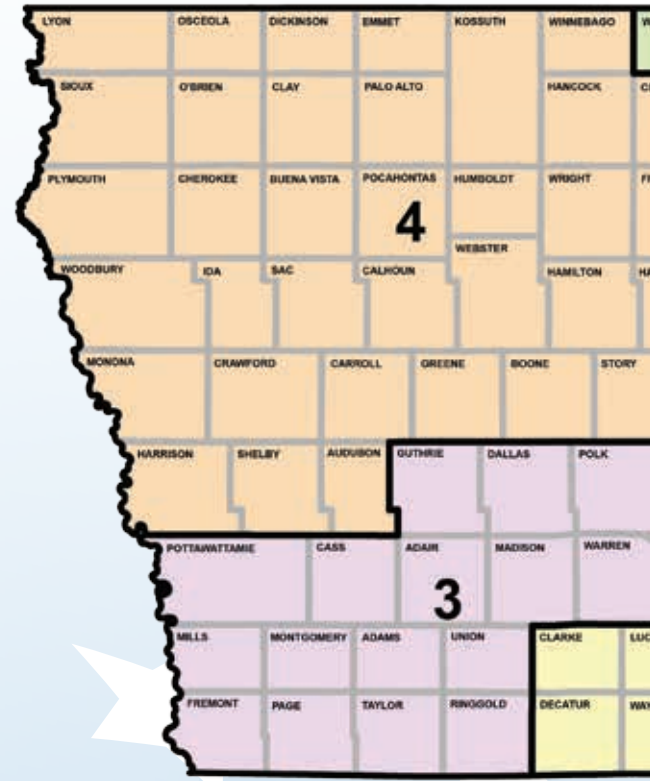
Prior to the 2017 Legislative session Iowa had:

1. A permissive early voting system
2. Absentee ballots that were mailed out 40 days prior to the election
3. NO Voter ID required

Current Landscape

Legislation was passed that now:

1. Requires Iowans to have identification in order to vote
2. Voter registration forms have been changed to include the libertarian Party
3. The ability to request an absentee ballot (ABR) has now been reduced by 11 days
4. The ability to vote by mail has been reduced by 29 days.
5. Straight party voting is eliminated
6. City and School Elections are combined beginning in 2019
7. Voter registration cancellation for answering "no" on Jury duty form
8. Cannot remove ballots from satellite/auditors office



EARLY VOTING – ABSENT BALLOT

Absentee Ballots

New Items for 2018 Absentee Ballot (ABR) Form:

- ★ Requirement for Iowa Drivers License, Non-Operator 10 Number or PIN number
- ★ Contact Information that will not be put into the voter database
- ★ Added Libertarian to political parties
- ★ If there are deficiencies on the form the Election Office can contact the voter "by the best means possible" which includes phone and via mail to ask security questions

Absentee Timelines:

- ★ Absentee Ballot Requests cannot be accepted more than 120 days before election
- ★ 29 days before the election is the first day ballots can be mailed or voted

Voter ID and Absentee Ballots

Voters requesting Absentee Ballots will be required to include their driver's license/non-driver's 10 numbers on their request form. Voters receiving the Voter 10 Card will be required to include their card's four-digit PIN number on the absentee ballot request form.

Ensuring Absentee Ballot Request is filled out properly

- ★ All items marked with an asterisk (*) **MUST** be completed (please see highlighted areas below)
- ★ Prior to 2018, the most overlooked item on the form was the Signature Line (Requester Affidavit)

STATE OF IOWA OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST FORM		For Office Use Only
YOUR NAME * AND DATE OF BIRTH *	Last _____ Suffix _____	
	First _____ Middle _____	
	Date of Birth (month, day, year) _____	
ID NUMBER * Complete one:	Iowa Driver's License or Non-Operator ID Number: _____	ID Number is required. An absentee ballot cannot be issued until ID Number is provided.
	OR Four-digit Voter PIN (can be found on Voter Identification Card): _____	
Voters without an Iowa Driver's License or Non-Operator ID number are mailed an Iowa Voter Identification Card at the time of registration.		
YOUR IOWA RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS *	Home Street Address (include apt, lot, etc. if applicable) _____	
	City _____	Zip _____ County _____
You must be registered to vote in the county to receive an absentee ballot. If you are registered to vote in the county, this form will be used to update your voter registration if the information provided on this form is different than the information on your registration record.		
WHERE YOUR ABSENTEE BALLOT SHOULD BE MAILED If different than above	Mailing Address/P.O. Box _____	
	City _____	State _____ Zip _____
	Country (other than USA) _____	
CONTACT INFO Important	Phone _____	Email _____
ELECTION DATE OR TYPE *	Election _____ OR <input type="checkbox"/> General <input type="checkbox"/> Primary <input type="checkbox"/> School <input type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Special:	
	PRIMARY ELECTION ONLY: Check one political party <input type="checkbox"/> Democratic <input type="checkbox"/> Libertarian <input type="checkbox"/> Republican	
REQUESTER AFFIDAVIT* I swear or affirm that I am the person named above and I am a registered voter or I am entitled to register at the address listed on this form. I am eligible to receive and vote an absentee ballot for the election indicated above.		
Powers of attorney do not have legal authority to request an absentee ballot on behalf of another.		
	Signature: X _____	Date _____

VOTER

Voter ID

- ★ Only for voters that **DO NOT** have an Iowa Driver's License or Non-Operator ID
- ★ Voter ID Cards (free) will be mailed to voters
- ★ Voter ID Cards must be signed by the voter
- ★ Confidential PIN number is needed to receive a Voter ID Card)

During calendar year 2018, voters will be asked to provide proof of identity. Anyone who does not have the necessary ID will be allowed to cast a regular ballot.

Beginning January 1, 2019, Iowa voters will be required to provide proof of identity (driver's ID, passport, military 10, veterans ID, etc.). Voters without the necessary 10 will be offered a Voter ID Card until the time of the county canvass of votes (General Elections).

Proof of ID

If you **do not** have an Iowa driver's license and contains an expiration date.

- The following are acceptable ID'S:
- ★ Iowa non-driver's license or non-driver ID
 - ★ Out-of-state driver's license or out of state ID
 - ★ U.S. passport
 - ★ U.S. military ID
 - ★ ID card issued by employer
 - ★ Student ID issued by Iowa high school or college

Proof of Residence

If your photo ID does not contain your current address, you may be required to prove where you live if it contains your name.

- The following are acceptable proofs of residence:
- ★ Residence lease
 - ★ Utility bill (including a cell phone bill)
 - ★ Bank statement
 - ★ Paycheck
 - ★ Government check or other government document
 - ★ Property Tax Statement (current within 45 days)

Attester

If you cannot prove who you are and where you live, a registered voter from your precinct may be required to sign an oath swearing the statement being attested for is registration fraud. It is a crime punishable by a fine up to \$7,500 and up to 5 years in prison.

5th Iowa Primary Elections

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS
in 2012 for the 113th U.S. Congress



Prepared by the Iowa Legislative Services Agency

VOTER REGISTRATION

Voter Registration

The new law does not affect Iowa's voter registration process. There are still multiple ways to register to vote, including at the polls on Election Day, and online. Voters registering on Election Day still need to bring a picture ID and proof of residency in the precinct, like a utility bill. This has not been changed from previous elections. Voter registration forms have been changed to include the Libertarian Party.

STATE OF IOWA OFFICIAL VOTER REGISTRATION FORM	
<p>In Iowa, you are not qualified to vote if you have been convicted of a felony and have not received a restoration of voting rights. You may apply to the Governor to restore your voting rights.</p>	
Qualifications	<p>1. Are you a citizen of the United States? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p> <p>2. Will you be 18 years of age on or before Election Day? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>If you answered "No" to either of these questions, do not complete this form.</p>	
ID Number	<p>Provide your Iowa driver's license, non-operator ID number, or the last 4 digits of your Social Security number if you have one.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> IA driver's license #: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> IA non-operator ID #: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Last 4 digits of Social Security number: XXX-XX-_____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I do not have an IA driver's license, non-operator ID, or Social Security number.</p>
Additional Information	<p>Date of Birth (month, day, year) _____/_____/_____</p> <p>Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female</p> <p>Date of birth and sex are required.</p> <p>Phone and/or Email (optional) _____</p>
Your Name	<p>Last _____</p> <p>First _____</p> <p>Middle _____ Suffix _____</p>
Address Where You Live	<p>Street Address (Include apt., lot, etc.) _____</p> <p>City _____ Zip _____ County _____</p> <p>If homeless or you do not have an established residence, describe where you reside: _____</p>
Where You Receive Mail (if different)	<p>Address/P.O. Box _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p>
Previous Voter Registration Information	<p>Your name was _____</p> <p>Your address was _____</p> <p>Your city and state were _____ Your zip was _____</p>
Political Affiliation (check only one)	<p>Political Parties: <input type="checkbox"/> Democratic <input type="checkbox"/> Libertarian <input type="checkbox"/> Republican <input type="checkbox"/> No Party</p> <p>Non-Party Political Organizations: <input type="checkbox"/> Green</p>
WARNING	Registrant Affidavit
<p>If you sign this form and you know the information is not true, you may be convicted of perjury and fined up to \$7,500 and/or jailed for up to 5 years.</p>	<p>I swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am the person named above. I am a citizen of the United States. I have not been convicted of a felony (or I have received a restoration of rights). I am at least 17 ½ years old. I live at the address listed above. I am not currently judged by a court to be "incompetent to vote." I do not claim the right to vote anywhere else.
	<p>Signature _____ Date _____</p>

ID LAW

Iowa Driver's License or Non-Operator ID
voters who DO NOT have an Iowa Driver's

request absentee ballot (located on the Voter ID

needed to show their 10 before voting at the polls.
will be asked to sign an oath verifying their
ballot.

l be required to show a driver's license, non-
or Voter ID Card at the polls before they vote.
ed a provisional ballot and can provide ID up
(Monday after election day for Primary and

you may use a photo ID that is current, valid,

D card
e non-driver 10 card

r college

rent address, you may use another document
me and current address.
dence:

document
5 days of final payment date)

re you live with the documents listed above,
est for you. Both you and the attester will be
ents being made are true. Falsely attesting or
lass "D" felony and is punishable by a fine up

If you have questions about all the voting changes and the process, please contact the Iowa Secretary of State's office at their web page: sos.iowa.gov or call 888-767-8683.

You can also call the Iowa Federation of Labor AFL-CIO officer at 515-262-9571 or at ifl@iowaaflcio.org.

Remember to vote June 5th.

Get To Know Your AFL Field Coordinators

When the Central Labor Councils became Area Labor Federations, they added a full-time position to each ALF called Field Coordinators.

These coordinators have been very busy, and are doing great work, helping the ALF's and chapters organize, get locals to affiliate and doing community projects.

Locals should make good use of these coordinators, and here is a little information about each of them and how to contact them.

GREAT RIVER AREA LABOR FEDERATION

Julia McMeekan attended school at Western Illinois University where she got a B.A. degree in English.



She got involved with politics with the "Run Warren Run" campaign, where she then went on to work on the Bernie Sanders campaign. She lives in Davenport, Iowa.

juliamcmeekan@yahoo.com
309-738-1446

HAWKEYE AREA LABOR COUNCIL

Jerry Hageman was born in Waterloo, Iowa. His father worked at



Rath Packing for 36 years where he was a member of UFCW. He was drafted in the service and worked electronics while in the Navy. He worked for the phone company for

36 years, and was steward, secretary, vice-president and treasurer for CWA Local 7108.

He is a graduate of the University of Iowa where he studied political science.

He retired from the phone company after 36 years, in 2015.

Jerry is married to Debbie and they have a daughter and son, and two grandchildren.

He is active with the Democratic party, clean water, his church and on the board of a local nursing home.

Slinky1.jh@gmail.com
319-234-7404

SOUTH CENTRAL IOWA AREA FEDERATION OF LABOR

Sandy Opstvedt lives in Story City with her husband Brian. They have three adult children and three grandchildren.

She has a Bachelor degree in Busi-



ness Admin, and Associate degrees in Business Management and as a legal assistant.

Sandy has been a reporter for the Story City Herald. She was an intern for Justice Louis Lavorato in the Iowa Supreme Court and worked as a Legal Assistant for a law firm. She was assistant Business Manager for IBEW Local 55 from 1989 to 2010.

Served as IBEW State Conference President.

She is very active with the Democratic party serving on several committees at local through national levels. Was fourth district Vice President for the Iowa Federation of Labor. Has been active the Iowa State Energy Task Force, Iowa Consumer Advocate Advisory Board, and Story County Conservation Board.

Sandy.scifl@gmail.com
515-291-0093
https://ssl.gstatic.com/ui/v1/icons/mail/images/clear_dot.gif

WESTERN IOWA LABOR FEDERATION

Scott Puntaney was born in Omaha, Nebraska and he now lives in



Council Bluffs, Iowa with his wife. They have three daughters with one still at home in high school.

He worked or Griffin Pipe Products in Council bluffs for 26 years until it closed in 2014. He was a member, shop steward, vice president and president of USW 3141. Went to work for Bimbo Bakeries, for two years, in Bellevue as a member of BCTGM 433. Then went to work Packaging Corporation of American in Omaha and was a member of IBT 543 M.

spuntaney@wilfaflcio.org
402-657-1007



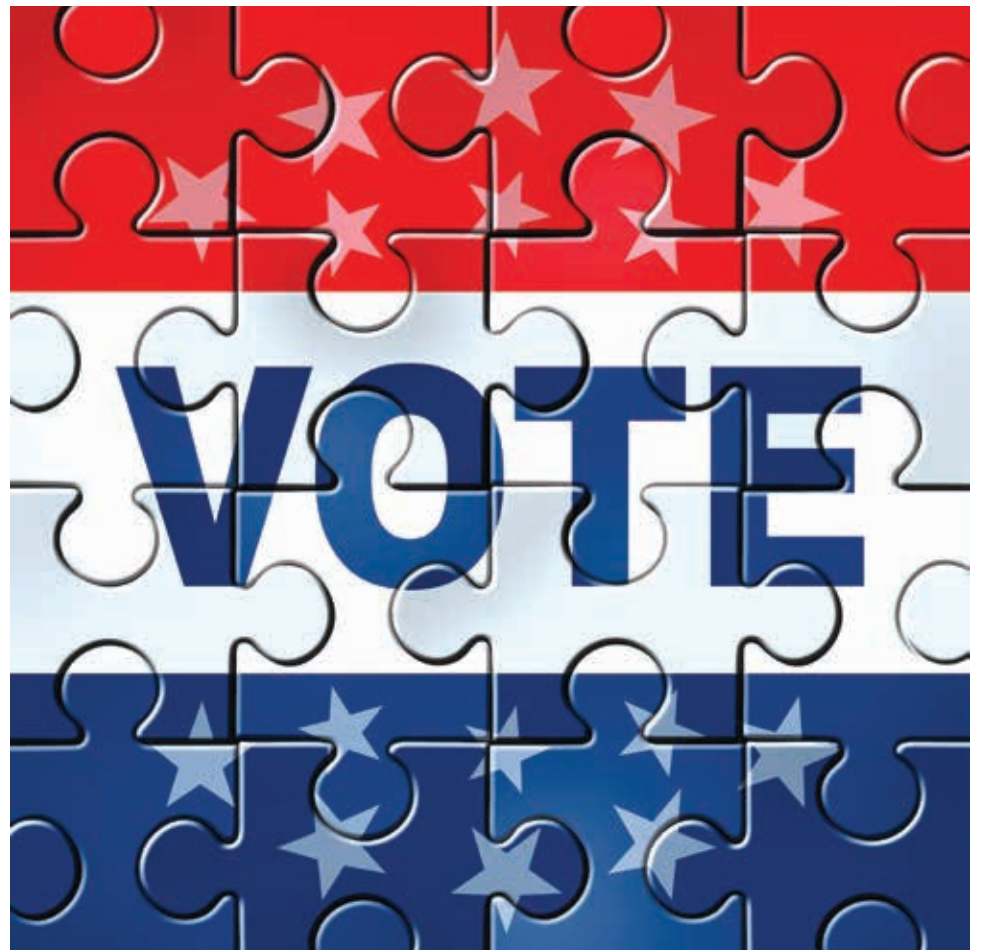
2018 LABOR HALL OF FAME

Each year at the Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO convention, we honor retired union leaders, living or deceased, by inducting up to three of them into the Labor Hall of Fame. This award is presented to men and women within the labor movement whose efforts and sacrifices have enhanced the quality of life for Iowa workers.

For Information on Making a Nomination
Contact the Iowa AFL-CIO
515-262-9571 or ifl@iowaaflcio.org

**Nominations Must Be Received By
JUNE 15, 2018**

**2018 Labor Hall of Fame Dinner
& Induction Ceremony
Thursday, September 21
Prairie Meadows Altoona, Iowa**



REALITY: Backroom Tax Overhaul Blows Opportunity To Simplify Iowa Taxes, Slashing Revenue And Fairness To Working Families

By Mike Owen,
Executive Director,
Iowa Policy Project

So much for all the promises. Backroom dealing that produced an overhaul of Iowa’s tax system assured that the complications and fairness problems with Iowa taxes will remain, along with the current system’s failure to produce adequate revenues for services Iowans demand.

Rammed through both houses of the Legislature on the final day of the session, the plan guarantees continued increases in college tuition. It assures PK-12 public schools will not be able to keep up with costs. Services from corrections to water quality to wage-and-hour enforcement to child care assistance to health care for the most vulnerable Iowans will be even less adequate.

One simple fact that no legislator can legitimately deny: The law requires a balanced budget, and revenues already were not keeping up (as evidenced by mid-year budget-cutting) before House and Senate leaders and the Governor agreed behind closed doors to whack revenues by over \$400 million a year by 2021.

The final tax bill stands in contrast to the political babble of simplifying taxes, of helping middle-class families, or — one of the silliest messages — making Iowa “competitive” when we were already in the middle of the pack and below by any responsible measure of taxes.

Look at the facts, as we do at the Iowa Policy Project and Iowa Fiscal Partnership to help Iowans sort reality about complex issues from spin-filled talking points, especially those we can count on hearing for many months to come. When you look at the facts, you see:

- **The plan fails to actually “reform” Iowa taxes, on many counts.** It failed to address costly business tax credits, to eliminate federal deductibility or to better recognize the costs of raising a family. Lawmakers jettisoned from the Governor’s proposal raising the

standard deduction, which would help moderate and middle-income working families and simplify taxes for many. Instead, the change is put off for four years, and is unlikely to happen.

- **Middle-class Iowans will benefit little under the plan.** The final plan provides the bigger breaks at higher incomes than even the initial plans, which also benefited the wealthy.

- **Special breaks favor Iowans with business income.** These primarily higher-income tax filers will get a special “pass-through” break for business income on their personal income tax.

- **The final plan is far more costly** than the Governor’s plan or an earlier House plan.

- **The plan is more likely to**

hurt the Iowa economy than to help it, if history is a guide.

As IPP’s Peter Fisher noted in an IowaPolicyPoints.org blog May 3, two days before the vote:

“For the next four tax years the bulk of the tax savings go to the most well off. In 2021, almost half of the tax cuts will go to the richest 2.5 percent of Iowa taxpayers, those making \$250,000 or more. Their taxes are reduced by 18 percent, over twice the cut for those in the middle. For those making over a million dollars, the tax cut will average \$24,636.

“Meanwhile, those in the middle will see income tax cuts of \$100 to \$300 over the next four years, much of which will be taken back in increased sales taxes of \$35 to \$60.”

Finally, a note on the transparency (or lack of same) in this pro-

cess. Iowans were owed better — not only given no respect to be part of the process or to observe it, they were denied the information needed to properly evaluate it and make comments to legislators representing them. In fact, the official fiscal analysis for the bill did not emerge until the morning of passage.

The analysis Peter Fisher and IPP provided was possible, in part, to the support of Iowa workers who have contributed individually or through their unions to the work of the Iowa Policy Project. When we reach out to you for support, we do so with appreciation for all you have done for us since our beginning in 2001, and with a commitment to be there for you when these issues arise.

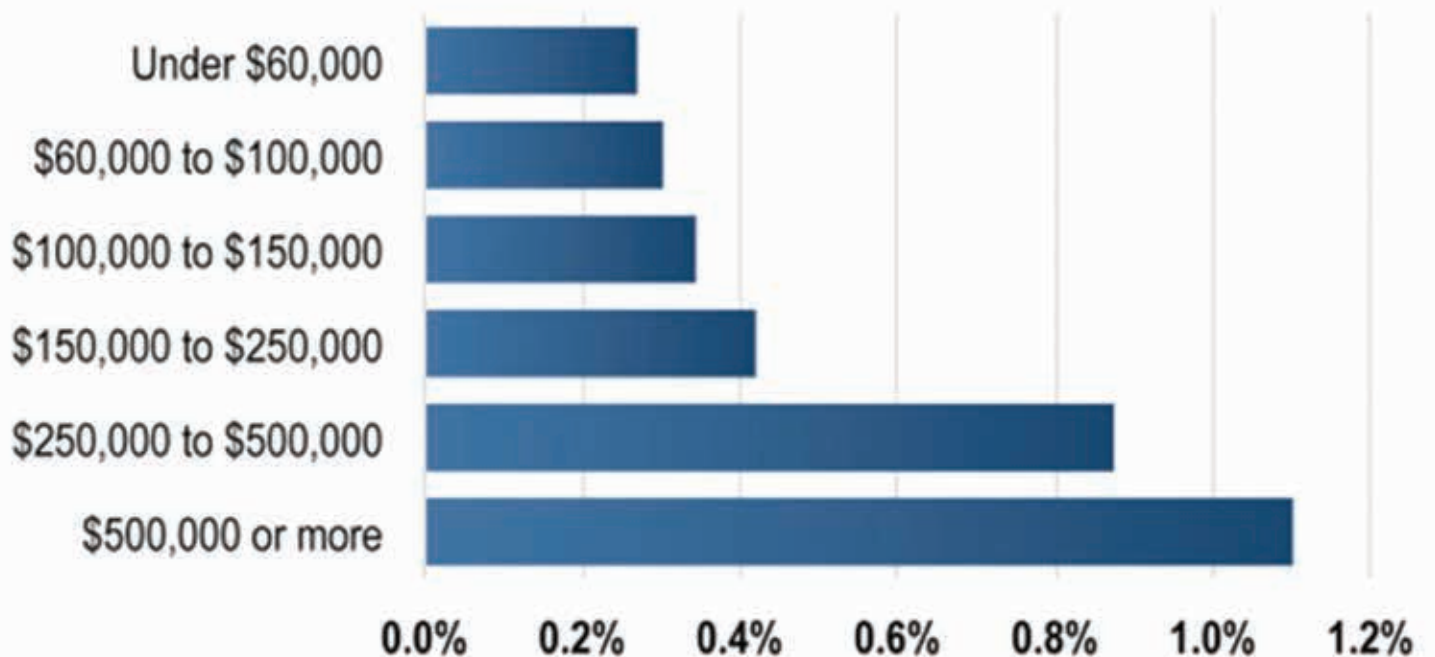
You can contact Mike Owen at mikeowen@iowapolicyproject.org.

Little for the middle class: Bulk of tax benefits to the wealthiest

Average tax cuts, percent of total cuts by income, 2021

Adjusted Gross Income	Percent of Taxpayers	Average Tax Cut	Percent Reduction	Percent of Total Tax Cut	Tax Cut: Percent of Income
Under \$20,000	28.3%	\$ (8)	0.0%	0.8%	-0.31%
\$20,000 to \$60,000	36.8%	\$ (100)	-8.8%	12.2%	-0.27%
\$60,000 to \$100,000	17.1%	\$ (232)	-7.5%	13.2%	-0.30%
\$100,000 to \$250,000	15.4%	\$ (534)	-8.2%	27.3%	-0.38%
\$250,000 to \$1 million	2.3%	\$ (4,014)	-17.5%	30.4%	-1.00%
\$1,000,000 or more	0.2%	\$ (24,636)	-19.4%	16.1%	-1.01%
Total	100%	\$ (300)	-11.1%	100.0%	-0.48%

Tax cut in 2021 as percent of income, by Adjusted Gross Income



Iowa Federation Of Labor Voted On Endorsements For 2018 Elections

The Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO (IFL) held its Committee on Political Education (C.O.P.E) Convention, April 14, in Des Moines, Iowa last weekend. This is the formal step in the process to evaluate candidates for the first round of endorsements for the 2018 election cycle.

“The Iowa Federation of Labor endorsement process is very democratic. Local labor councils evaluate and recommend endorsements to the state organization, where they must get two-thirds support to get an endorsement,” said Ken Sagar, President of the IFL. “We consider all candidates who return our questionnaire and answer the questions appropriately. The Iowa Federation of Labor is looking for candidates,

regardless of party, who are committed to advancing policies that are in the best interests of all working people.”

Additional endorsements may be made as candidate questionnaires are completed and returned. IFL Secretary-Treasurer Charlie Wishman noted, “Some candidates do not return questionnaires, which effectively eliminates them from endorsement opportunities with our organization. Our program requires candidates to tell us where they stand on issues important to working Iowans before we will support them.”

Some candidates were not endorsed at this time, but will be voted on by the Iowa Federation of Labor Executive Board, after the primary election.

US Congress		Endorsed Candidate		Iowa Statewide Office		Endorsed Candidate	
CD 1		Abby Finkenauer		Governor		Nate Boulton	
CD 2		Dave Loebsack		Secretary of State		No Endorsement @ this time	
CD 3		No Endorsement @ this time		Auditor		Rob Sand	
CD 4		No Endorsement @ this time		Treasurer		Michael Fitzgerald	
				Secretary of Agriculture		Tim Gannon	
				Attorney General		Tom Miller	

SD	Endorsed Candidate	HD	Endorsed Candidate	HD	Endorsed Candidate
1	David Johnson	1	Karen Larson	51	Tim Knutson
3	David Dawson	2	Ryan Odor	52	Todd Prichard
5	John J. O'Brien	3	No Endorsement @ this time	53	Sharon S. Steckman
7	Jackie Smith	4	No Endorsement @ this time	54	No Endorsement @ this time
9	No Endorsement @ this time	5	No Endorsement @ this time	55	Kayla Koether
11	No Endorsement @ this time	6	Rita DeJong	56	Lori Egan
13	Vicky Brenner	7	Debra Jensen	57	Leo Gansen
15	Chaz Allen	8	Connie Price	58	No Endorsement @ this time
17	Tony Bisignano	9	Megan Srinivas	59	Bob Kressig
19	Amber Gustafson	10	Jake Ronald Thompson	60	Dave Williams
21	No Endorsement @ this time	11	No Endorsement @ this time	61	Timi Brown-Powers
23	Herman Quirnbach	12	Peter Leo	62	No Endorsement @ this time
25	Tracy Freese	13	No Endorsement @ this time	63	Eric Stromberg
27	Amanda Ragan	14	Timothy Kacena	64	Bruce Bearinger
29	Tod R. Bowman	15	Charlie McConkey	65	Liz Bennett
31	Bill Dotzler	16	Steve Gorman	66	Art Staed
33	Robert M. Hogg	17	Jan Creasman	67	Eric Gjerde
35	Todd Taylor	18	No Endorsement @ this time	68	No Endorsement @ this time
37	No Endorsement @ this time	19	No Endorsement @ this time	69	Kirsten Running-Marquardt
39	Kevin Kinney	20	Warren Varley	70	Tracy Ehlert
41	Mary S. Stewart	21	Denise O'Brien	71	Mark Smith
43	Joe Bolkcom	22	Ray Stevens	72	No Endorsement @ this time
45	Jim Lykam	23	Chuck Larson	73	No Endorsement @ this time
47	Marie Gleason	24	James Uhlenkamp	74	Dave Jacoby
49	Rita R. Hart	25	Ryan Marquardt	75	No Endorsement @ this time
		26	Scott Ourth	76	Ann Egly
		27	Richard Foster	77	Amy Nielsen
		28	No Endorsement @ this time	78	Kimberly K. Davis
		29	Wes Breckenridge	79	Samantha Keith
		30	Kent A. Balduchi	80	Susan McDanel
		31	Rick Olson	81	Mary Gaskill
		32	Ruth Ann Gaines	82	Phil Miller
		33	No Endorsement @ this time	83	No Endorsement @ this time
		34	Bruce L. Hunter	84	Jason Moats
		35	No Endorsement @ this time	85	Vicki S. Lensing
		36	No Endorsement @ this time	86	Mary Mascher
		37	Andrew Rasmussen	87	Dennis M. Cohoon
		38	Heather Matson	88	No Endorsement @ this time
		39	Karin Derry	89	Monica Kurth
		40	John Forbes	90	Cindy Winckler
		41	Jo Oldson	91	Laura J. Liegois
		42	Kristin Sunde	92	Jean Simpson
		43	Jennisfer Konfrst	93	Phyllis Thede
		44	No Endorsement @ this time	94	Joan Marttila
		45	No Endorsement @ this time	95	Christian Andrews
		46	No Endorsement @ this time	96	Reenie Montgomery
		47	David Weaver	97	Tim McClimon
		48	Tim Winter	98	Mary Lynn Wolfe
		49	Brenda Brink	99	No Endorsement @ this time
		50	Dennis Evans	100	Charles Isenhardt

