

INTERNATIONAL WORKERS DAY
WORKING PEOPLE UNITED
ACROSS BORDERS



IMAGE BY FAVIANNA RODRIGUEZ

WE RISE!

#1UWERISE

AFL-CIO

MAY DAY 2017



SAMPLE MEDIA ADVISORY FOR MAY DAY

Media Advisory for [DATE]

Contact: [NAME, PHONE NUMBER]

Working Families in [CITY, STATE] Hold [RALLY/VIGIL/EVENT] to Celebrate May Day

Community, labor and faith leaders commemorate progress in workers' rights through collective action, call for policies that lifts all workers

[CITY, STATE] – On [DAY, DATE], in commemoration of May Day, working families in [CITY/STATE] will gather at [LOCATION] to hold a [RALLY/VIGIL/EVENT] to celebrate the contributions of working people.

Through the power of collective action, working people have been able to achieve higher wages, better benefits and improved health and safety in their workplaces, yet millions of immigrant workers who are in the shadows continue to be underpaid and exploited by unscrupulous employers.

[DESCRIPTION OF EVENT] Event participants will speak on how the most effective way to prevent exploitation and downward pressure on wages and working conditions is to ensure that all workers have full and complete access to the protection of labor, employment, health and safety and other laws. Labor leaders will ask for equal protection of all workers, regardless of immigration status, and for immigration enforcement policies that prevent employers from pitting workers against each other to drive down standards

WHAT: May Day [RALLY/VIGIL/EVENT].

WHO: Working families, local labor, community and faith leaders.

WHEN: [DATE, TIME]

WHERE: [LOCATION]

###

May Day 2017 Message Points

Together, We Rise! – ¡Juntos, Adelante!

Broad frames:

a) Working People United Across Borders

Working people share a common struggle that transcends borders, and it is only by acknowledging our shared humanity and working together that we can ensure fair and equitable treatment at home and throughout the world.

On May Day, working people and their unions worldwide commit to work together across borders to build worker power and rewrite the rules of trade, immigration, and economic policies that have put profit over people for long enough. At a time when ugly rhetoric is being used to advance an aggressive anti-worker policy agenda, we stand in unity and reject efforts to divide us.

b) Protect Our Democracy. Protect Our Right for Collective Action.

There has never been a more important time for workers to assert our collective power. When all workers have a say in our pay and working conditions, we will lift up more families and communities.

We will never solve the problem of inequality unless every worker has the power to bargain with our employer. Nothing else raises wages better or more fairly.

c) Protect All Workers from Discrimination and Retaliation.

History teaches us that building the necessary power to improve the lives of working people only happens when we are united and strong. Instead of uprooting and deporting our coworkers, neighbors and friends, we must stand together in solidarity and fight for policies that will promote real economic and racial justice in our country. We will continue to call for measures at the local, state and federal level that strengthen due process protections for all workers, regardless of race or immigration status.

The most effective way to prevent exploitation and downward pressure on wages and working conditions is to ensure that *all* workers have full and complete access to the protection of labor, employment, health and safety and other laws. Furthermore, must end discrimination based on race and gender to reverse systemic disparities and secure the decent and safe jobs that all working people deserve.

d) *Immigrant Rights Are Worker Rights.*

Our immigration enforcement policies must prevent employers from pitting workers against each other to drive down standards, and also prevent the threat of deportation from being used as a weapon to keep working people from asserting their rights on the job.

e) *We Have to Right to Be Safe at Our Workplace and in Our Communities.*

Our communities, our workplaces and our unions will be vulnerable unless we all stand strong together. In the face of scapegoating policies, millions of working people are now afraid to take their children to school and to go to work themselves, let alone to speak up when they encounter abuse or exploitation.

We categorically reject policies that criminalize working people, encourage racial or ethnic profiling, and erode due process protections. Policies such as those announced by the Trump administration have swelled the population of people of color in federal detention and the profits of private prison operators.

At the urging of unions and grassroots allies around the country, many cities and states have committed to ensure basic rights and protections for all the members of their communities. We need to expand policies that prevent exploitation, not eliminate them.

f) *We Fight. We Organize. We Win.*

We will continue to demand that our nation's leaders take action to lift working people up, rather than making it even harder for us to get ahead. Our country needs more bridges into the middle class, not walls to divide us.

When people negotiate together, they gain better wages and benefits.

Solidarity works. Unity works. When we stand together, we win, and our success spreads. It's happening right now. Workers are organizing for a seat at the table and a chance to improve pay and benefits. That's our movement—workers of all skills and backgrounds coming together in pursuit of a common goal.

CRITICAL STATE BATTLES UPDATE (April 18, 2017)

FLORIDA

HB 5007 | Weakening the Florida Retirement System (FRS), Favorable by Appropriations Committee; Laid on Table, refer to SB 7022, 4/13/2017. This bill will now be debated behind closed doors in the budget conference process.

HB 11, SB 1292 | Decertifying Florida's Public Sector Unions, Favorable by Oversight Transparency and Administration Subcommittee; Favorable by Government Accountability Committee; Approved by the Florida House, 04/05/17 received in Senate and referred to Commerce and Tourism, Governmental Oversight and Accountability, Appropriations, and Rules Committees.

HB 599, SB 534 | Preemption of Local Pro-Worker Ordinances. House Bill was Favorable with CS (committee substitute) by Government Accountability Committee, 03/31/17 2nd reading. Senate Bill Favorable with CS text by Community Affairs, Favorable in Governmental Oversight and Accountability, 3/28 referred to Senate Appropriations Committee.

HB 17 | Preemption of All Local Regulation. Favorable with Committee Substitute by Careers & Competition Subcommittee, CS now in House Commerce Committee.

SB 1158 | Preemption of Local Regulations of Commerce, Trade and Labor. Referred to Commerce and Tourism, Community Affairs, Appropriations, & Rules Committees.

SB 856, HB 373 | Eliminating Protections for Florida's Educators. House Bill Favorable by PreK-12 Innovation Subcommittee, Favorable by Education Committee; 04/05/17 passed on third reading in the House. Senate Bill referred to Education, Rules and a hearing in Governmental Oversight and Accountability is scheduled for 4/17/17.

SB 340, HB 221 | Deregulating Transportation Network Companies, House Bill passed 04/05, Senate Bill 2nd reading on calendar 04/06 and placed on special order calendar for 04/18/17.

SB 1582, HB 7085 | Workers' Compensation Modification. House Bill favorable with by Commerce Committee, Senate Bill favorable by Banking and Insurance Committee.

SB 428, HB 353 | Weakening the Florida Retirement System, House bill referred to Oversight Transparency & Administration Subcommittee, Senate Bill favorable by Community Affairs now referred to Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee.

SB80, SB 246, HB 163 | Legal Representation in Public Records Requests.

SB80: Passed; amended sufficiently to earn support from FL AFL-AFLCIO. **SB 246:** Referred to Government, Oversight and Accountability, Community Affairs, Judiciary, & Rules

Committees. **HB163**: Favorable Government Accountability Committee, 2nd reading on 04/05 on the House Floor.

SB 478, HB 351 | "The Secrecy Bill" Exempting University Searches from Florida's sunshine Laws, House Bill favorable in Education Committee, 2nd reading 04/06 in the House. Senate Bill referred to Education, Governmental Oversight and Accountability, & Rules Committees.

SB 2, HB 3 | Florida Excellence in Higher Education act of 2017 – shortens graduation times and hurts low income students who may need more than 4 years to complete their degree. House bill favorable with Post-Secondary Education Subcommittee. In House Appropriations Committee. Senate Bill passed after third reading.

SB 786, HB 697 | Federal Immigration Enforcement; House Bill favorable in subcommittees, now referred to Judiciary Committee. Senate Bill referred to Appropriations Subcommittee on Criminal and Civil Justice, Judiciary, Appropriations, and Criminal Justice Committees.

SB 666, HB 623 | Florida Competitive Workforce Act (support), House Bill referred to Careers and Competition Subcommittee. Senate Bill referred to Governmental Oversight and Accountability, Commerce and Tourism, Judiciary, & Rules Committees.

SB410, HB 319 | Helen Gordon Davis Fair Pay Protection Act (support), House Bill now in Careers and Competition Subcommittee Committee. Senate Bill referred to Governmental Oversight and Accountability, Commerce and Tourism, Judiciary, and Rules Committee.

Affiliate Asks

- Please urge your members to call [855-910-8513](tel:855-910-8513) to be connected to members of the Florida Senate Appropriations Committee and ask them to vote 'NO' on SB 534. If passed, this bill will create sweeping new preemptions on local governments and their ability to enact and enforce local rules or ordinances designed to help workers and local economic development efforts, especially with public work projects
- Please ask members to share the following videos via their personal social media platforms. Florida Session Week Video Update:
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FloridaAFLCIO/videos/1378569092217288/>
Youtube: <https://youtu.be/jRSdKEHyIpl>
- Please ask members to sign up for the legislative action list-serve. This list-serve sends out actions to contact legislators during critical times in the bill making process: <http://www.flaficio.org/?q=getupdated>

Please ask leaders in state to send members to participate in the Florida Working Families Lobby Corps. Participants spend the week in Tallahassee and undergo training and morning briefings to prepare them for important meetings with their legislators and actions at the Capitol. For more information, and to register participants please contact your CLC or Phyllis Garrett, PGarrett@flaflcio.org

IOWA

The following bills were signed by the Governor last week –

- SF 438 | The anti-PLA/Quality Assurance bill passed the Senate and the House.
- HF 529 | This bill raises penalties on OSHA violators. The IFL supports this bill.
- HF 572 | This expands the Workforce Development Board and requires that a business representative be chair at all times.
- HF 542 and HF 533 | Unemployment benefit restrictions.

HF 516 | VOTER ID. This bill also reduces early vote from 40 days to 29 days. Ready for the Governor's Signature.

SF 456 / HF 484 | Dismantles Des Moines Water Works. Both bills are floor-eligible in their respective chambers.

SF 475 | Education Omnibus Bill/Expansion of Online Education. This bill passed the Senate and is being debated in the House. Numerous amendments have been filed.

SF 475 | Sanctuary Cities. This bill imposes financial sanctions against local governments that fail to cooperate with federal officials in enforcing immigration laws. Passed the Senate.

SF 32 | Private Sector Drug Testing. Expands private sector drug testing to include hair follicles. Passed the Senate.

Budget Bills –

The following pieces of the budget have been approved by committee in the Senate and had public hearings on Monday in the House:

- Education (SF 511, HF 642)

- Judicial (SF 508, HF 645)
- Ag and Natural Resources (SF 510, HF 641)
- Justice (SF 509, HF 644)
- Infrastructure, also known as RIIF (HF 643). There is currently no Senate version of RIIF.

Other parts of the Budget:

- Health and Human Services, and Economic Development – Still in Subcommittee, no bill numbers yet.
- Admin and Regulation (HF 640, SF 507) – On committee calendar in the House, passed committee in the Senate.
- Transportation (SF 497) – Passed House and Senate. This was non-controversial.
- Federal Block Grants (SF 498) – Passed House and Senate. This was non-controversial.

Upcoming Activities

We expect a flurry of activity around the budget this week. The Legislature is scheduled to end per diem payments to legislators after 4/18 and Republicans have said they want to end this week. There is no requirement for them to hold additional hearings and because they are so close to the end of session, there are no notification requirements for hearings. They could literally schedule a hearing with 15 minutes notice without violating any rules.

Affiliate Asks:

Please have members call our hotline to ask their legislators to VOTE NO on the Budget: House (855-790-8815) Senate (844-332-8460)

Please reach out to Peter Drummond at pdrummond@aficio.org or (203) 522-8249 to get involved.

MISSOURI

HB 251 | Has become both Paycheck Deception, Recertification and other Public Sector attacks. On Senate calendar.

SCS/SB 210 | Recertification and Other Anti-Union Attacks. On Senate calendar.

SCS/SB 32 | Tax Credit-Style Vouchers (Education Savings Accounts) SCS/SB 43 | Discrimination and Whistle Blower Has been perfected Senate. It has been second read in the House.

HB 44 | Prohibits the Missouri Housing Development Commission from requiring a prevailing hourly wage to be paid to a contractor on a project for a housing tax credit, if it is in a Governor-declared disaster area. It is assigned to the Rules Committee, returned to Economic Development Committee.

SB 182 | PLA Modification Passed the Senate, and second read in the House. Currently referred to House Committee on Rules-Legislative Oversight.

HB 634 | Charter School Bill, passed the House, upcoming committee hearing in the Senate.

HB 288 | UI Bill. The House passed. Companion bill SB 189 will be voted on in a perfection vote by the full Senate next. HB 288 is on the informal calendar for this week. SB 189 is set on the Senate Calendar.

HB 104 | PW Repeal (Public Works) Passed the House. Set on the Senate Calendar.

HB 1193/1194 | Municipal Minimum Wage repeal was voted out of the Senate Committee. It was already passed out of the House. Set on the Senate Calendar.

HB 637 | Allows public employees to bargain with a public employer independently of a labor union. Reported to House committee on Rules-Legislative Oversight.

SCS/SB 313 | The bill creates a new 100% state tax credit capped at \$25 million per year for taxpayer contributions to third-party organizations that will use some of the proceeds to fund accounts that parents can use to pay private school tuition and other expenses for their students. The Senate debated the bill but did not bring it to a vote. This could come up at any time for a vote.

HB 1132 | The bill makes a number of changes to the school funding formula. The House Budget Committee has heard this bill.

MISSOURI AFL-CIO REFERENDUM TRAINING SCHEDULE

For those of you wanting to join the effort please join us at one of our upcoming trainings. *Training program is a train the trainer.* Activists will be able to go back to their local unions and train their own members to collect signatures. **RSVP to Ryan Burke at 314.258.6466 or rburke@aflcio.org or reach out to him with any questions.**

Tuesday, April 18th, 2017

9:30 A.M.

Hosted by UFCW 655

Sheraton Clayton Plaza Hotel Grand Ballroom

7730 Bonhomme Ave. St. Louis, MO 63105

Tuesday, April 18th, 2017

6:30 P.M.

Hosted by the Saint Louis Central Labor Council

St. Louis Central Labor Council at IBEW local 1

5850 Elizabeth Ave St. Louis, MO 63110

Wednesday, April 19th, 2017

6:00 P.M.

Hosted by the Jefferson City Central Labor Council

Jefferson City Labor Temple 209 Flora Drive Jefferson City, MO 65101

Wednesday, April 19th, 2017

6:00 P.M.

Hosted by the Kansas City Central Labor Council

IBEW 124 303 E 103 Terrace Kansas City, MO 64114

TEXAS

SB 13, HB 510 & HB 3540 | Paycheck Deception. SB 13 passed the Senate. It is now in the House. HB 510 has been referred to the State Affairs Committee in the House. HB 3540 has been referred to the General Investigating & Ethics Committee in the House.

HB 648, SB 452 | Eliminate project labor agreements on public projects. HB 648 is pending in the House Economic & Small Business Development Committee. SB 452 passed the Senate.

SB75 | Requires parental consent for minors to join a union. The Texas Senate, voting strictly along party lines, approved SB 75. Passed. Now it moves to the house.

SB4 | The House State Affairs Committee approved a somewhat favorably amended version of SB 4, the "sanctuary cities" bill. Although a few of the worst provisions were removed, SB 4 still threatens to discriminate against Texans and hamper law enforcement. The bill may hit the House floor in a couple weeks.

SB 5 | This is a form of voter ID law and the TX AFLCIO opposes the bill. This bill would penalize voters who intentionally use an ID without a photo when an ID with a photo is available. Intentionally using the photo-less ID would result in a 3rd degree felony.

April 10th, a federal judge found, once again, that Texas intentionally discriminated against African-American and Hispanic voters when the state enacted the new "voter ID" law, SB 14. The judge wrote that once again "The State has not met its burden." The court order raises the possibility that Texas elections will once again fall under federal supervision. The state is expected to appeal.

Affiliate Asks:

Please ask members to sign the following petitions:

- o Support raising the minimum wage: <https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/raise-the-minimum-wage-in-texas>
- o Please ask members to tell their Senator to reject the nomination of Josh McGee to the State Pension Review Board: <https://actionnetwork.org/letters/protect-public-pensions>

Please reach out to Jeff Rotkoff at jeff@texasaflcio.org or 512.477.6195 to get involved.
