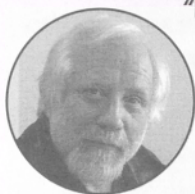


Workers Win When Members Tell Their Stories



"When I was given the great privilege of speaking with the House Agriculture Committee members about the County funding crisis, they were very encouraging and supportive. This created a launching pad for an amazing trip for SEIU 503 county workers and the political staff to go to Washington DC and help persuade key legislators to pass the one year additional funding bill, bringing in 425 million dollars which saved thousands of county jobs and services."

Buck Eichler, Jackson County

Secure Rural Schools

Rural Oregon has been experiencing a major funding crisis in the last year, precipitated by the federal government's failure to extend aid money that compensates communities surrounded by large amounts of federal land. In response, our members organized their co-workers and neighbors and brought their concerns to Salem. Reps. *Ron Maurer, Arnie Roblan, Brian Clem, Dave Hunt* and Sens. *Kate Brown, Vicki Walker* and *Ted Ferrioli* supported Local 503's efforts by working to pass a resolution calling on Congress to reinstate the funds.

Then in April, Jackson County Employees Association President *Buck Eichler* led a group to Washington and had more than 25 meetings with key members of Congress. The group also included members *Amy Blossom* from Jackson County, *Terry Yantes-Olin* from Curry County, and *Terry Drever-Gee* from Baker City.

Although the federal funding is still in limbo, and the crisis in rural Oregon has not been resolved, Local 503 members are continuing the fight for solutions that protect vital public services in our rural communities.

Motor Carrier Enforcement

Despite strong opposition from the trucking industry, SEIU ODOT members worked to clarify the role of motor carrier enforcement officers in protecting the safety of our highways.

Led by local Vice President *Kermit Meling*, SEIU members testified at hearings, lobbied legislators and educated a wide range of stakeholders about the importance of enforceable safety standards for commercial vehicles. In the end, a deal was struck to create a pilot program giving MCEO's the training and authority to stop and detain commercial vehicles. Special thanks are due to Rep. *Nancy Nathanson*, who put public safety above politics and went to bat for our Motor Carrier Enforcement Officers. While there is still work to be done before the issue is resolved, the work done this past session was the first step in making sure motor carriers can keep our highways safe.

Kermit Meling (left) and Mike Cobb (right) are both Motor Carrier Enforcement Officers and 503 members. They testified in support of HB 3273 before the Senate Transportation Committee on April 2, 2007 regarding reinstatement of safety procedures eliminated in 2004.