



MICHAEL H. BOLTON, DIRECTOR

UNITED STEELWORKERS



UNITY AND STRENGTH FOR WORKERS  
DISTRICT 2

# NEWS

SPECIAL ISSUE

MAY 2020 • VOLUME 10, ISSUE 5, PAGE 1

## DISTRICT 2 CONTACT INFORMATION

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(920) 722-7630

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(920) 722-7630

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### Northern MI Sub-District Office

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Bay City, MI 48706  
(989) 667-0660

### Southern MI Sub-District Office

20600 Eureka Road, Suite 300  
Taylor, MI 48180  
(734) 285-0367

## USW District 2

### Council Steering Committee

The District 2 Council By-Laws established a District 2 Council Steering Committee comprised of a rank and file structure. It was set up to assist in the following:

- Development of agenda for Council Conference.
- Planning of the District Council Conference Educational Conferences.
- District 2 strategic planning.
- Determining and assessing educational needs within the District.
- Generating and leading activism and other purposes consistent with the mission and directives of District 2 and the USW.

The elected members of the Steering Committee are listed below by manufacturing sector. If you need to contact a Steering Committee Member, please do so by using the email provided below.

Name	LU#	Sector	Email Address
Ron Pascual	1299	Steel and Related	rtascual@yahoo.com
Don Carlson	59	Paper	dcarlson@zianet
Robert Desmond	12182	Amalgamated	rvdesmond@aol.com
Jesse Edwards	2-232	Automotive Related	Jesse_edwards1919@yahoo.com
Kent Holzing	12075	Chemical & Energy Related	kentholzing@gmail.com
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AFL-CIO-CLC

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should be sent:

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MAY 25, 2020, is the deadline for  
submissions for the next issue.

## "Let's Talk About Our Union's Core Issues"

### A Message from Michael Bolton



As we wade through stay at home regulations now in place across America, this "new normal" makes it somewhat easy to forget that the Presidential election is just a half year away. In six months, we will be going to the polls to choose a new batch of leaders who will shape our country for the future. Will it be a government that respects the contributions of workers and recognizes labor rights? Or, will we continue down the road we are currently on where Unions are seen as a problem and workers are lucky to have a job? The choice is ours.

To kick off our District 2 Election Program, I'd like to talk about our Union's core issues. If you attended a "Your Union - Your Voice" town hall meeting earlier this year, you heard us discussing these issues. They are the issues that we built our Union on: collective bargaining, safety and health, job security/trade, health care, retirement security and domestic economic issues. Back in the day, us old school activists called them our "bread and butter" issues. But, either way you say it, they remain to be the issues that matter most to us and American workers, Union and non-Union alike.

As a Union activist, to me there is no issue more important than labor rights. To me, the right to join a Union and participate in collective bargaining built not only the most admired working class in the world, but it literally built this country. The 40-hour work week, children out of factories, the creation of OSHA, and living wages and benefits have all been pioneered by the labor movement. It should come as no surprise then that I have kept a close eye on what our current elected officials have done to affect our movement. Unfortunately, little has been done to help us. However, they have gone out of their way to hurt our cause. From arguing in front of the Supreme Court in favor of the public sector Right to Work case to changing NLRB rules to allow almost immediate decertification election after workers voted to join a Union, they are working hard to maintain the Republican 10-year war on labor. In the coming months I will go in greater detail about this issue. For now, I am keeping this brief because we have a lot more to cover.

For all of us, as Union activists, workplace safety and health should be a top priority. After all, what good is the best negotiated collective bargaining agreement if you are not around to enjoy it? In order to understand the current administration's performance in this area, you have to understand their world view on business in

general. As businessmen, they are driven by the bottom line first. In their world, regulations kill profits and lead to job losses. That said, the administration is changing workplace safety under the radar by engaging in a series of policy and rule changes. For example, under the Obama Administration, employers were required to release the names and circumstances related to employee workplace deaths. However, since the current administration's OSHA has repealed this rule, getting information about work-related accidents has become more difficult.

Another way the administration is affecting workplace safety is through the defunding of OSHA and other safety and health agencies. According to the National Employment Law Project (NELP), the number of OSHA Inspectors is at a 48-year low. Conversely, the number of post-fatal accident inspections is up. In 2017, there were 829 such inspections. The following year, 2018, that number jumped to a 10-year high of 929. Overall, in 2017, there were 5,147 deaths on the job in the U.S. That number increased to 5,250 in 2018. These numbers do not include workers who died due to workplace illness. The AFL-CIO puts that number at 94,000 in 2018. Obviously, the point I am making is that more workers are dying under the present administration.

Our next issue is Job Security and Trade. Since the passage of NAFTA, nothing has impacted Steelworkers' job security more than unfair trade brought on by the bad trade agreements our country has entered into. Millions of jobs have been lost due to unfair competition with low-wage nations like Mexico, China and India to name the big ones. To their credit, the current administration has reached new agreements with Mexico and South Korea. Unfortunately, the NAFTA 2.0 agreement was just recently signed, which means we have no data to judge it by. The jury is still out on that one.

The current administration has also tried to take on China. It appeared at the beginning of this administration that he might be able to rein in the world's worst cheater when it came to currency manipulation and the country's overcapacity problem. Overcapacity means China produces (for example) more steel than the country can use. To keep the mills running and workers on the job, the government pays manufacturers to keep running. Those subsidies allow producers to sell their products at prices below cost and results in cheap products being dumped on our markets. Unfortunately, the current administration lost focus and got caught up in a trade war with the communist country. It has proven to be a stalemate; and, as a result, trade negotiations have collapsed.

One of the toughest issues we face in collective bargaining is the rising cost of health care. It is no secret that the current administration has it out for

— Continued on Page 2 —

## "GO BUILD OUR UNION!"

## Did you know?

### AMERICA'S 5 ECONOMIC ESSENTIALS FOR CARES 2

- 1 Keep front-line workers safe.
- 2 Keep workers employed and protect earned pension checks.
- 3 Keep state and local governments, public schools and the U.S. Postal Service solvent and working.
- 4 Keep America healthy—protect and expand health insurance for all workers.
- 5 Keep America competitive—hire people to build infrastructure.



AFL-CIO

**For more on this, go to the bottom of page 2 and page 7**

UNITED STEELWORKERS

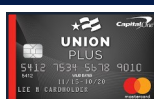


## YOUR UNION YOUR VOICE

#USWVOICES

### OUR CORE ISSUES

- COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
- SAFETY AND HEALTH
- JOB SECURITY/TRADE
- DOMESTIC ECONOMIC ISSUES
- HEALTH CARE
- RETIREMENT SECURITY



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**NEWS**

United Steelworkers District 2  
AFL-CIO-CLC

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(920) 722-7630



**HAVE YOU BEEN TO DISTRICT 2'S  
PAGE ON FACEBOOK?**

[www.facebook.com/USWDistrict2](http://www.facebook.com/USWDistrict2)

## A Message from Director Bolton - continued from page 1

Obamacare; and has been so consumed with trying to sabotage the program that little or no time has been dedicated to find a replacement or to work on ways to reduce cost under the existing system. Last year, in an article in the District 2 Newsletter, I pointed out that the price tag for an employer-sponsored health insurance had finally hit \$20,000 annually. While that was in California, it won't be long before employers in Wisconsin and Michigan are faced with those costs. Instead of negotiating excellent wage increases, we are being knee capped by higher co-pays, deductibles and premium contributions. Something has to change. But it won't unless our elected officials get off their anti-Obama horse and start talking about.

Next up is retirement security. This issue is divided into three categories, (1) pension, (2) Social Security and (3) retiree health care. All three are under threat by conservatives in the GOP who are anxious to privatize Social Security and Medicare and siding with employers in the drive to end defined benefits pensions. While a promise was made during the last campaign that there would be no cuts to Social Security and Medicare, there has been some backtracking and hinting at "the need" to take a look at the programs. If re-elected, and Republicans retain control of the Senate, they are going to attack these safety net programs. And, they are going to use the trillion dollar deficit growing bailout plans stimulus programs they are passing now as the reason it "must be done". As I said above, we will talk in deeper detail about this issue in the future.

Finally, we have the domestic economic issues category. This one includes a large number of issues, which we will get into at a later date. For today, I will stay with two important ones. The first is infrastructure spending. Infrastructure spending was one of the populist ideals championed during the 2016 Working Class Hero campaign. But, here we are, nearly four years later, and nothing. Despite overtures from Speaker Nancy Pelosi and House Democrats, there is still no lead on the issue. Why is infrastructure so important to Steelworkers?

First, we have to drive on neglected roads and pay for repairs the pot holes create. Second, road construction creates jobs and increases the demand for many of the products our members make. Third, it raises our wages. How? More jobs mean a greater demand for qualified workers, which increases wages by creating a "workers" job market. It also affects the community average wages that many employers use to set their own wage policies. Construction jobs like airports, seaports, railroads and expressways are generally performed by Union workers who make good wages and benefits. Those wages and benefits increase the community averages for job classes like welders, pipefitter/plumbers, laborers and machine operators. If our bosses want to keep their workers, they have to pay competitive wages. It's the law of supply and demand.

If a report card was put together on how the current administration has been handling these "bread and butter" issues, it is clear to see that they would fail. Thankfully, we have a chance to improve their grades; and that is by making sure our voices are heard, not only with this current administration, but at the polls in November when we have the opportunity to elect representatives that will put the working class first on their agenda.

## America's Five Economic Essentials - by AFL-CIO

America's workers - in the private and public sectors - have been devastated by the Covid-19 pandemic. In fact, for too many heroes on the front lines, simply going to work, has already proven to be a death sentence in this cruel crisis.

As the pandemic continues, millions are losing their jobs and their health insurance coverage as a result, while coping with devastating health concerns of their own. Workers are experiencing severe cash flow constraints and struggling to meet basic food and shelter needs. We're already seeing the effects of stressed state and local budgets. Many of our members are working without adequate safety protections and access to personal protective equipment and are becoming sick and unable to work, with some losing their lives because of Covid-19.

This is a moment that demands of us compassion and common sense; any meaningful relief and recovery will require a prioritization of the workers and their families who undergird the stability and prosperity of this nation.

While the recovery actions already taken by Congress will help many, those efforts

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**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**





## 2020 District 2 Calendar of Events

### JANUARY

- 8 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*USW Local 12075 Hall, 3510 James Savage Road • Midland, MI*
- 9 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*USW Local 12075 Hall, 3510 James Savage Road • Midland, MI*
- 16 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*USW Local 1299 Hall, 11424 West Jefferson Avenue • River Rouge, MI*
- 17 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*USW Dist. 2 Southern MI Sub-Office, 20600 Eureka Road, Suite 300 • Taylor, MI*
- 17-19 **AFL-CIO Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Civil & Human Rights Conf.**  
*Washington Hilton, 1919 Connecticut Ave Northwest • Washington, DC*
- 21 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*Lucky Dog's Labor Temple, 157 S. Green Bay Road • Neenah, WI*
- 21 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Kent Ionia Labor Hall, 918 Benjamin Avenue NE • Grand Rapids, MI*
- 21 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*USW Local 2-21 Hall, 1201 Sheridan Road • Escanaba, MI*
- 22 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*Clarion Inn, 3640 East Cork Street • Kalamazoo, MI*
- 22 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Old Morton Federal Credit Union, 516 Kosciusko • Manistee, MI*
- 22 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*USW Local 2-148 Hall, 1201 Gillingham Road • Neenah, WI*
- 23 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*Four Points by Sheraton - Milwaukee Airport, 5311 South Howell Avenue • Milwaukee, WI*
- 24 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Milwaukee Labor Council Building, 633 S. Hawley Road • Milwaukee, WI*
- 24 **WOS Quarterly Meeting**  
*Joann Lester Library, 100 Park Street • Nekeosa, WI*

### FEBRUARY

- 4 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*Eau Claire Labor Temple, 2233 Birch Street • Eau Claire, WI*
- 6 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*Fraternal Order of Eagles, 1104 S. Oak Avenue, Marshfield, WI*
- 11 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*Holiday Inn, 4079 US-10 • Ludington, MI*
- 13 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*McRae Park Hall, 1301 N 2nd Ave, Alpena, MI 49707*
- 18 **Town Hall Meeting**  
*USW Local 4950 Hall, 1206 Baldwin Avenue • Negaunee, MI*
- 25 **LM Review Session**  
*Milwaukee Labor Council Building, 633 S. Hawley Road • Milwaukee, WI*
- 26 **LM Review Session**  
*Lucky Dog's Labor Temple, 157 S. Green Bay Road • Neenah, WI*
- 27 **LM Review Session**  
*Kronenwetter Village Hall, 1582 Kronenwetter Drive • Kronenwetter, WI*
- 28 **LM Review Session**  
*USW Local 2-21 Hall, 1201 Sheridan Road • Escanaba, MI*

### MARCH

- 2 **LM Review Session**  
*USW Local 12075 Hall, 3510 James Savage Road • Midland, MI*
- 3 **LM Review Session**  
*Bungalow Inn, 1100 28th Street • Manistee, MI*
- 4 **LM Review Session**  
*Clarion Inn, 3640 East Cork Street • Kalamazoo, MI*
- 5 **LM Review Session**  
*USW District 2 Southern MI Sub-Office, 20600 Eureka Road, Suite 300 • Taylor, MI*
- 10-12 **USW District 2 Collective Bargaining Training**  
*Four Points by Sheraton - Milwaukee Airport, 5311 South Howell Avenue • Milwaukee, WI*
- 23-27 **CANCELLED & POSTPONED until April 2022**  
**District 2 Council Conference**  
*Red Lion Hotel Paper Valley • 333 West College Avenue, Appleton, WI*

### MAY

- 3-8 **CANCELLED & POSTPONED until May 2021**  
**District 2 WOS Leadership Development Course (Levels I & II)**  
*Zehnder's Splash Village Hotel & Waterpark, 1365 South Main Street • Frankenmuth, MI*

## Important Notice

We apologize for any inconvenience, but the USW District 2 offices are currently closed. However, the health and safety of our members and staff is our number one priority.

We are committed to doing our part in preventing the further spread of coronavirus (Covid-19) while still representing our members. If you need assistance, you can still call each office; or, call your Staff Representative.

## STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

[cdc.gov/COVID19](https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)

The schedule is designed to assist in planning this year's events. However, there is a possibility dates and/or locations could change due to unforeseen circumstances. Changes and corrections will be made ASAP and updated on the USW District 2 website.



## ACTIONCALL

May 11, 2020

### On and Off the Job, Workers Need Protection

We are at an unprecedented time in our nation. While many of our members are facing mass layoffs, others are on the job or being ordered to return to work. That's why we must work harder than ever to push Congress to enact consistent, uniform safety standards that would help slow the virus' spread and demand employer compliance.

#### Protecting Workers on the Job

In March, we demanded that OSHA implement an emergency, temporary infectious disease standard that would specify the steps employers must take to keep workers safe. Unfortunately, the Secretary of Labor refused. A bill in Congress, [the COVID-19 Every Worker Protection Act of 2020](https://bit.ly/2YfGF3Q) (<https://bit.ly/2YfGF3Q>) (H.R. 6559) (<https://bit.ly/3aRqgwx>), would require OSHA to immediately issue an enforceable Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS), based on CDC guidance, to protect all workers from exposure to Covid-19 in the workplace. These measures are absolutely necessary to keep workers safe while we restart our economy.

#### Protecting Health Care for Those Who Have Lost Their Jobs

Over the past seven weeks, over 33 million Americans have lost their jobs - tens of thousands of Steelworkers and their family members included. We have deep concerns that our members will not be able to afford to continue their health care during this time because of the high cost of COBRA coverage. [The Worker Health Coverage Protection Act](https://bit.ly/3alsUNI) (<https://bit.ly/3alsUNI>) (H.R. 6514) (<https://bit.ly/2yT6g7K>), would provide 100 percent federal financing to cover the full cost of COBRA premiums owed by workers who have lost their jobs, who are furloughed, or who have had their hours reduced as a result of the coronavirus crisis. We know that this is also a priority for those we represent.

#### Urge your members of Congress to support the Covid-19 Every Worker Protection Act of 2020 and the Worker Health Coverage Protection Act today!

*There are two ways you can help.*

1. Click [HERE](https://bit.ly/3cpvPw3) (<https://bit.ly/3cpvPw3>) to email your Representative and urge them to cosponsor both of these critical bills.
2. Make a quick call to urge your Representative to cosponsor these bills.
  - Dial our toll-free number to the U.S. House: 866-202-5409. You will be automatically routed to your Representative's office.
  - Tell the office who you are and where you are from, and ask your Representative to **COSPONSOR BOTH** the Covid-19 Every Worker Protection Act of 2020 (H.R. 6559) and the Worker Health Coverage Protection Act (H.R. 6514).

**We know we don't typically ask for engagement on two issues at once, but unprecedented times call for unprecedented action, especially with our members' and their families' health and safety on the line. Please take a moment to email and call Our legislators. Urge them to cosponsor both of these critical bills!**

USW Rapid Response . (412) 562-2291. <http://www.uswrr.org> . [www.facebook.com/USWRapidResponse](http://www.facebook.com/USWRapidResponse)

**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**



## Kevin Mapp Appointed USW District 2 Assistant to the Director - by Michael Bolton, Director



I am pleased to announce that Southern Michigan Sub-District Director Kevin Mapp will now be serving as the Assistant to the Director in District 2. Kevin got his start at Great Lakes Steel in Ecorse, Michigan, as a member of Local 1299. He held a number of positions in his local, including vice-chairman of the grievance committee, before coming on the USW Staff in 2012.

Since 2017, Kevin's been serving as Sub-District Director. He also serves on the boards of both the Metro Detroit and National A. Philip Randolph Institutes. With this new appointment, he will also serve as a Trustee on the USW Health and Welfare Fund, an Advisory Board Member to the Institute for Career Development (ICD), and a member of the Board of Directors for the Michigan AFL-CIO Labor Foundation, among other duties of the Assistant to the Director.

In addition to Kevin's background and experience, he possesses a desire to fight for our members and build the labor movement. Please join me in congratulating Kevin as he takes on his new assignment!

I would also like to extend my best wishes to Arthur Kroll who has begun a new life adventure. After serving 30 years with the United Steelworkers Union, Art has retired effective May 1, 2020. Art has been my Assistant here in District 2 and has dedicated his time to the labor movement in many capacities, including, Servicing Staff, Organizing Coordinator, Education Coordinator, Sub-District Director and Assistant to the Director. Despite his retirement from his day-to-day functions, Art plans to continue his involvement and support to the labor movement. On behalf of District 2 staff and members, we wish Art a long, happy, and healthy retirement!



## Local 4950 to Show Support and Solidarity for Locals' Healthcare Members - by USW Local 4950 Executive Board

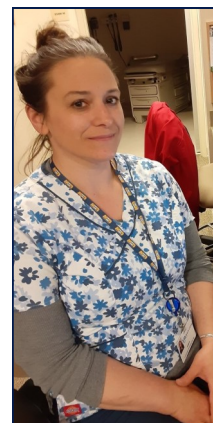


USW Local Union 4950 is an amalgamated local, primarily made up of Iron Ore Miners, in the upper peninsula of Michigan.

The local membership includes 375 miners along with approximately 200 health care professionals that work in various facets of this sector. To show support and solidarity for those that are essential and deal with the pandemic on the front lines, the membership mailed out almost 200 gift cards valued at \$25 each to those brothers and sisters who are taking care of our families,

friends, and neighbors who utilize the facilities that these members work in. The local will also be providing face masks for each health care member with the Steelworkers logo imprint. Patients will know they are receiving the best care possible from a professional group of dedicated individuals from the Steelworkers.

Local President Chad Korpi is quoted as saying "It's the least we can do to acknowledge what our members are doing on a day-to-day basis; and they take it in stride like any other day at work. We're extremely proud of what they do for those that require care within our community." USW Local 4950 represent LPN's, CENA's, Care Aides, clerical workers and administrative staff at a clinic, an assisted living center, and a nursing home within Marquette County of the upper peninsula of Michigan.



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**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**



## Labor Organizer and Civil Rights Activist Cesar Chavez Begins Hunger Strike • May 1, 1972 - by theHistoryChannel.com



On May 1, 1972, Mexican-American labor organizer and civil rights activist Cesar Chavez begins a hunger strike. The strike, which he undertook in opposition to an Arizona law severely restricting farm workers' ability to organize, lasted 24 days and drew national attention to the suffering of itinerant farm workers in the Southwest.

A fervent admirer of Mahatma Gandhi, Chavez had undertaken several hunger strikes before. As a co-founder of the United Farm Workers, he and his strikes had played important roles in many major labor actions, including the

five-year Delano Grape Strike in California. In response to the wave of organizing that had swept the region, Arizona's legislature passed a bill that constricted workers' rights to organize, outlawed secondary boycotts, and allowed growers to obtain a restraining order to prevent strikes during the harvest. Despite an outcry from farm workers and Chavez's request that they meet to discuss the bill, Governor Jack Williams immediately signed it into law. Later that day, Chavez began his fast.



An increasingly emaciated Chavez appeared regularly at mass, attended by his supporters and others from the civil rights movement. Coretta Scott King, whose husband, Martin Luther King, Jr., had supported Chavez in his previous strikes, attended one such mass, as did Democratic presidential nominee George McGovern. Chavez referred to the strike as "a fast of sacrifice," repeatedly reminding observers that his suffering was meant to represent the daily suffering of farm workers.

Finally, after 24 days, he ended his fast at a memorial mass for Bobby Kennedy, who had thrown his political support behind Chavez's cause in the years prior to his 1968 assassination. The following year, Chavez and the UFW organized another major agricultural strike, the Lettuce Growers Strike, and in 1975 California passed a landmark law affirming workers' rights to boycott and to collective bargaining.

## This Month in Labor History • Haymarket Riot - by Gerard McMurran

May 4, marked the 134th anniversary of the Haymarket Riot, a violent incident that critically hurt the U.S. labor movement and the campaign for a 10-hour day. In fact, observers at the time set both movements back 50 years.

As background to the Haymarket affair, in 1835 construction trades in Boston held a seven-month strike demanding a 10-hour day. Workers were tired of working long, outrageous hours in the summer. They wanted work to be spread out through the year. Their success saw the movement spread to Philadelphia where bricklayers, carpenters, plasterers, leather dressers and blacksmiths walked off the job in support of a 10-hour day. Textile workers in New Jersey became the first factory workers in the United States to strike for a shorter work day. They were followed by women textile workers in Lowell, MA.



The Labor movement was experiencing tremendous success utilizing an industry strategy to secure shorter days. However, labor activists recognized the effort needed the weight of the law to be truly effective. However, attempts at federal laws to limit hours worked proved to be futile.

To counter that, the movement developed a state strategy. In 1847, thanks to pressure from a robust labor movement, New Hampshire became the first state to pass 10-hour day legislation. Pennsylvania followed in 1848. By 1850, the agitation

of the labor movement had actually helped lower hours worked to 11.5.

The movement continued to press its shorter workday hour agenda. On May 1, 1886, the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions called a national strike to secure what had now become a demand for an eight-hour day. Workers across the United States answered the call with peaceful demonstrations. However, one event, which was being held in Haymarket Square in Chicago, IL, saw a huge police intervention. Law enforcement was moving into the Square to break up the crowd. As they did, someone in the throng tossed a bomb into the squadron of police. Shots were fired by officers and protesters; and when the smoke cleared seven cops and one civilian were dead.

A trial was held for radicals charged with murder. Without any real evidence or testimony against the defendants, the jurors found the accused guilty and sentenced them to death by hanging. The incident left a bad impression for Americans who had followed the events. As a result, the labor movement struggled for years to rebuild its image.

**Attention Workingmen!**

**MASS-MEETING**

TO-NIGHT, at 7:30 o'clock.

HAYMARKET, Randolph St. Bet. Desplaines and Halsted.

Good Speakers will be present to discuss the latest situation out of the police, the shooting of the Italian workmen yesterday afternoon.

Workmen! Are You Ready and Able to Fight For THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY?

**Achtung, Arbeiter!**

**Waffen-Verammlung**

Heute Abend, 7 1/2 Uhr, auf dem Haymarket, Randolph-Strasse, zwischen Desplaines- und Halsted-Str.

gute Redner werden hier sein, um die neueste Situation aus der Polizei, das Schiessen der italienischen Arbeiter gestern Nachmittag zu besprechen.

Arbeiter! Sind Sie Bereit und Fähig zu Kämpfen FÜR DEN ACHT-STUNDEN-TAG?

Die Organisierten Arbeiter

**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**

## America's Five Economic Essentials - by AFL-CIO, continued from page 2

are disproportionately aimed at large enterprises, not communities and families. Without more direct help, hardworking people and their families will continue spiraling downward to a social safety net in tatters, damaged by years of under-investment.

### THE FIVE ECONOMIC ESSENTIALS THAT SHOULD BE THE CENTERPIECE OF THE CARES 2 PACKAGE TO KEEP OUR FAMILIES SAFE:

- **KEEP America healthy - protect and expand health insurance for all workers:** We are in a health care crisis, yet the first thing millions of people are losing is their health insurance. Now, in the midst of a pandemic, is not the time to throw millions of laid-off workers and the families of workers who have died off their health insurance. We need to expand affordable health care, not eliminate it, so that all workers have access to medical testing and treatment. This must include 100% federal payment support for COBRA extensions that otherwise would bankrupt millions and steps to ensure there are no surprise medical bills sent to families in medical crisis. We also must assure the financial solvency of hospitals across the country, including community hospitals that provide the economic engine in many rural communities.
- **KEEP front-line workers safe and secure:** All essential workers need safety protections on the job, including personal protective equipment, training, testing, anti-retaliation protections, paid sick leave and hazard pay. We are seeing workers performing essential services or making essential products left unprotected as they protect us in sectors such as health care, grocery, transportation, public service, public and higher education, the U.S. Postal Service, emergency response, construction, manufacturing, energy, utilities, broadcast news and many more. These workers are everyday heroes who have kept our country moving, fed, cared for and safe through this crisis. All these workers need to be treated, protected and paid accordingly. This requires actions, not just words; which is why Congress must mandate that OSHA and MSHA issue emergency temporary standards to protect all workers from infectious diseases, and the administration must use the Defense Production Act to ensure the manufacture of personal protective equipment and other medical supplies we must have to keep our country safe for the duration of this crisis.
- **KEEP workers employed and protect earned pension checks:** We are headed toward catastrophic levels of unemployment - 20% or higher - and we must act. The Paycheck Protection Program must pay workers as it was designed to do, not used by executives to pay back debts to big banks and private equity firms. CARES 2 must ensure that millions more workers are paid for through the duration of this crisis by making support for employers who keep workers on payroll simpler, faster and more universal. A pension is a promise - workers paid into a system for decades of work for the promise of security in retirement. Congress must help ensure this promise made to millions of private-sector American workers and their families is kept. The labor movement has advanced meaningful proposals on how to address this and these must be adopted. We must also extend direct financial support for all workers' housing, including renters and homeowners.
- **KEEP state and local governments, our public schools and the U.S. Postal Service solvent and working:** The past decade of austerity at the state and local levels have exacerbated the current crisis. We are watching state and local governments become overwhelmed by an unprecedented demand for public services at the very moment that revenues are cratering. A substantial investment in unrestricted aid to state and local governments, school districts, colleges and universities, and the U.S. Postal Service, as well as greater federal assistance for Medicaid, will help prevent a further gutting of public services that would make this concurrent health and economic crisis even worse. We cannot forgo the future of our students for a crisis that is not of their making. Moreover, nurses, food service personnel, teachers, postal workers, child and home care workers, transit workers, telecom workers, and other public service workers are front-line heroes working long hours to allow families to adhere to social distancing and, in many cases, risking their lives to serve our country. They must be defined as essential and supported financially throughout this public health and economic emergency as part of CARES 2.
- **KEEP America competitive - hire people to build infrastructure:** With the highest number of unemployed Americans since the Great Depression, we need to both provide good jobs and strengthen our nation's workforce. This crisis is a wake-up call to make long overdue investments in a key pillar of the economy: our infrastructure. If not now, when will we ever reinvest in the vital infrastructure essential to protect our country and boost good job creation?



The coronavirus pandemic has impacted the lives of millions of working people and our families. Go to the AFL-CIO Website or: <https://aflcio.org/covid-19/state-resources>

Select your state to find the resources, programs and benefits available in your area to assist you during this crisis.



**"GO BUILD OUR UNION!"**