



You are invited to a Tele-Town Hall

*California state budget, pension reform
& paycheck deception*

**Thursday, December 15, 2011
6:00 p.m.**

Facilitators: Luisa Blue, SEIU Local 521 Chief of Staff
Riko Mendez, SEIU Local 521 Political Director

California faces enormous fiscal challenges. The more we know, the better we can fight to protect quality public jobs and services.

SEIU Local 521 members are invited to participate in a **town hall via telephone** to hear the latest updates on the state budget and coming cuts. Other topics that directly affect SEIU Local 521 workers include:

- Pension reform
- Governor Brown's \$7 billion tax initiative
- Paycheck deception ballot initiative

How it works: At 6 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 15, you will receive an automated call to your home phone number informing you the tele-town hall event is about to start. Just be present to pick up the call and you will be automatically transferred into the session.

If you would like to make sure we are calling you at the right number, please contact your local Union office to confirm we have your preferred number on file.

Bakersfield (661) 321-4160	Fresno (559) 447-2560	Hanford (559) 587-1521	Salinas (831) 784-2560
San Carlos (650) 801-3500	San Jose (408) 678-3300	Santa Cruz (831) 824-9255	Visalia (559) 635-3720

Members Speak Up on Pension Reform at State Capitol

Next 521 Pension Committee Meeting December 14

Right now, our 521 Pension Committee is working to ensure that any future pension reform is done in a responsible and reasonable way.

On Dec. 1, 521 Pension Committee members Rachel Grocha-Welch and Bob Sigala spoke at a state capitol hearing on Governor Brown's pension reform plan.

While we support responsible pension reform, SEIU 521 and virtually all union groups oppose three key points in the governor's 12-point proposal:

- Mandating an "equal sharing of pension costs"
- Implementing a "Hybrid risk-sharing pension"
- Increasing retirement ages

Nearly all speakers at the hearing, including an analyst from the Legislative Analyst's Office, and those representing public employers, questioned the merits of the governor's plan and its dangerous trespass into the territory of collective bargaining and vested rights of workers.

"I think the private sector is getting screwed," because 401(k)-style investments evaporated during the Wall Street collapse, said the committee's co-chairman Assembly Member Warren Furutani. "But that doesn't mean the solution is to screw the public sector."

The committee, made up of both Democratic and Republic legislators, is tasked with putting forth pension reform recommendations that would be voted on by the full Legislature. More hearings will be scheduled.

So far, both Furutani (D-Gardenia) and co-chair Sen. Gloria Negrete McLeod (D-Chino), have publicly said they believe public workers—after years of service—deserve an adequate pension plan.

"Retiring in dignity—that is as American as you can get," said Assembly Member Furutani. "We need to defend that. We need to fight for it."

"Pensions are a negotiated benefit. No one size can fit all, and yet that's what the governor is proposing."

Rachel Grocha-Welch,
521 Pension
Committee Member



We should all be working to raise the standard of living for all retirees, public and private. After a lifetime of work, retirees deserve dignity, not poverty."

Bob Sigala, 521 Pension
Committee Member

521 Pension Committee members Rachel Grocha-Welch and Bob Sigala at the state capitol. Come to the next 521 Pension Committee meeting December 14.

What you can do:

What: Come to the next 521 Pension Committee meeting

When: Wednesday, Dec. 14, 6:00-8:00pm

Where: Union hall, 2302 Zanker Rd., San Jose

RSVP to Hoan.Pham@seiu521.org

Learn more at www.seiu521.com. Click on "campaigns".