Can we fight to protect our jobs and the threat of outsourcing on our own?

The County BOS is trying to make it easier to outsource our jobs.

This weekend, the Fresno Bee reported that Supervisor Poochigan is pushing for a November ballot measure that would make it easier to outsource county services. If it passes, her first target would be the hard working employees of the Fresno County Public Defenders Office.

Why are Public Defender workers a target?

Unlike us in Unit 4, Public Defender employees lack a large union like SEIU Local 521 that has the resources and membership to fight back takeaways, cuts and outsourcing. Supervisor Poochigan realizes this, and knows that she can push to outsource public workers that cannot fight back.

Leaving SEIU Local 521 is a threat to our job security.

The Board of Supervisors has made it clear that they are trying to place the burden of the budget crisis on our backs. So far, united in SEIU Local 521, we’ve fought to protect our jobs and our future. If we leave, our jobs could be next on the chopping block.

“If this measure passes, the BOS will be looking to outsource county services, starting with the smaller employee groups because they don’t have the numbers to speak out. If we aren’t united in SEIU Local 521, Unit 4 could be in the same situation as the Public Defender workers. SEIU Local 521 gives us the strength in numbers and resources to fight the county’s terrible proposals. Vote to stand together in SEIU Local 521, our job security depends on it.”

-Margie Gomez, Job Specialist III Unit 4

Unit 4 Employees Can’t Risk Being the Next Outsourcing Target.

Let’s Stay United in a Strong Organization that Can Fight Back.
Ballots were mailed to Unit 4 employees at their home address on August 1, 2012.

Mail your completed ballot back as soon as possible. Your ballot MUST be received in the State Mediation post office box no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 17, 2012.

If you need to request a ballot:

Any person who believes that they are eligible to vote in this election and has not received a voter’s packet by August 6, 2012, may contact State Mediation and Conciliation Services at (559) 593-2592 during normal business hours and a packet will be mailed to that person. No requests for a packet will be accepted after 5 p.m. on August 13, 2012.

Ballots will be counted at 2200 Tulare Street, 14th Floor, Fresno, CA 93721 on Monday, August 20, 2012 at 9 a.m.

“We continue to make great strides at the negotiating table. We can’t have all our work wiped out by leaving SEIU for an unknown and untested organization. That just doesn’t make any sense for us. I’m voting to stick with our SEIU Local 521. Together we can move forward and fight further takeaways with resources and solidarity.”

There’s too much at stake to take a gamble on our future. Let’s protect all that we’ve worked so hard to build by choosing to stay together with SEIU Local 521.