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The Secretary-Treasurer's Notes . . .

Redistricting: Why It Matters



**IFL Secretary Treasurer
Peter Hird**

Should union members be concerned about the redistricting process? Yes, and I will take it one step further—all voters should understand the basics of the process and why it matters. Although it is technically a process in place to guarantee equal democratic representation for voters, political parties often can, and do, utilize the redistricting process to consolidate power.

Before diving into specifics, here's a brief redistricting overview. Every ten years, when the census rolls around, the United States reevaluates its political district maps from the Congressional level down to the state legislature. Experts conduct an intense, statewide data analysis to ensure that the maps are representative and up-to-date. It's important

to note that population growth isn't necessarily consistent across geographical areas. For example, here in Iowa, our current 4th congressional district, which covers northwest Iowa, experienced a population loss, while statewide, we actually gained population.

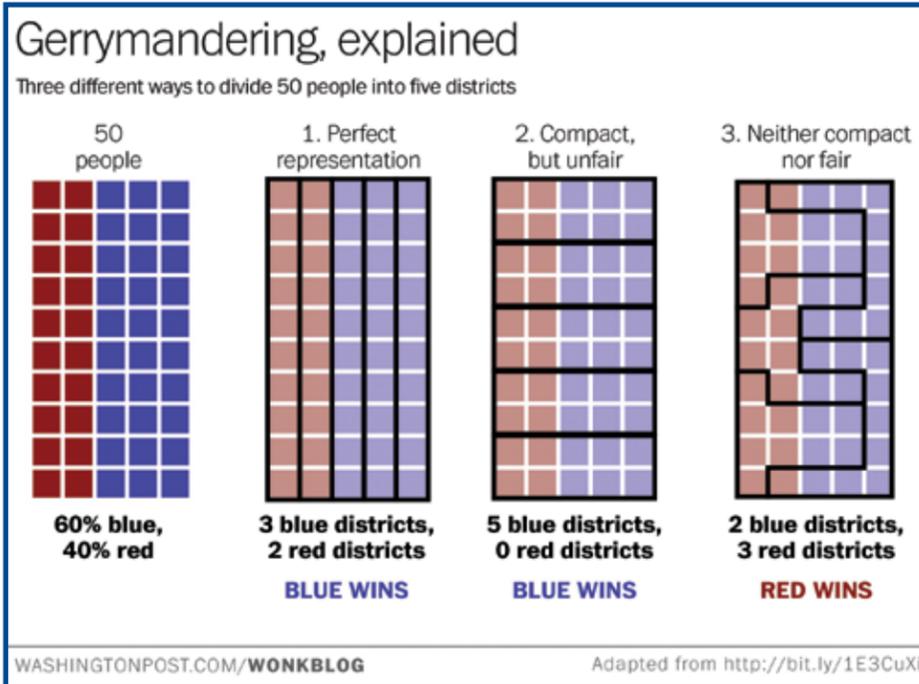
Each state has a unique redistricting process which is approved by the state legislature. Our redistricting process here in Iowa is known nationally for being a model for other states: fair and balanced, with its rules explicitly laid out in the constitution and Iowa code, making it seemingly impermeable to political manipulation. The US Census provides the data to the Iowa LSA (Legislative Services Agency). The LSA, Iowa's legislative non-partisan staffing, looks at all of the data and draws a map with Congressional, Senate and House districts to create equal representation. The leaders of each legislative political party then appoint a committee to hold 3 public hearings on the map. After all of this, the legislature votes up or down on the map of districts. If it gets voted down, the process starts over again and the 2nd map is voted on. If the 2nd map is voted down, LSA draws its 3rd and last map, which can be amended by the state legislature. Any amendments must follow the rules of the Iowa Constitution and law with compact and population-balanced districts.

Now, to add to all of this, there is a constitutional rule that says the process for creating state legislative districts must be done by September 15th of the redistricting year. In a normal year, without census data delays, the whole redistricting process would be completed, and maps would have been voted on and passed through the legislature. The US Census typically would have provided the population data in the 1st quarter of 2021. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the US Census was delayed and in turn, the redistricting process became delayed as well. On September 14th, 2021 the Iowa Supreme Court extended the

deadline to December 1st for the legislature to approve a map.

Now, why is any of this important? As I mentioned above, political parties can use the redistricting process to build power. They do so by "gerrymandering" the map: drawing strategic boundary lines to consolidate or separate voters to win elections and elect more of their members to office. This tactic can give one party political control even when they may not represent a majority of voters. (The Washington Post's story from 2015, below, has a helpful graphic explaining how the ways lines are drawn can affect power)

can do. Like many issues, educating yourself is important. This process is currently ongoing. As I write this, the 1st map has already been drawn, 3 public virtual hearings have been held, and the Governor has called a special session for October 5th to vote for or against the proposed map. If the legislature and the Governor approve the 1st map, this will all be done by the time you are reading this. However, if we get to a 3rd map where the legislature can make direct amendments—and it looks like they are going to manipulate the process—it will be up to us to speak up and demand that



Fair or not, district maps determine the political balance of a state. And as we all know, when a party is in control, they control the political agenda, the legislation that is passed or killed, and ultimately, whether workers rights are protected or put in jeopardy. Republicans are currently in control of the Iowa legislature. If we wanted Iowa to pass a law, such as making union rights guaranteed for all workers in the state, Republicans would have to make it happen. Last year alone there were dozens of pro-worker bills that didn't even get a meeting because those that hold the power won't let it happen.

You may be wondering what you

we leave the map drawing to the non-partisan agency, LSA. Workers rights will be on the line.

The Iowa AFL-CIO gave written comments on the 1st map for the 1st public hearing. We stated, "Our organization trusts the current LSA to draw a map in a nonpartisan manner and we support any map that is drawn by the agency without political amendments or agendas." Iowa's nationally recognized process is something for us to be proud of but it still takes participation from citizens for it to work as intended. I hope by the time you read this article, the process will be over and we can maintain Iowa's

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Labor Center 2021-2022 Course Schedule Now Available

Mark your labor education calendar for the coming year! A full list of our 2021-22 on-campus programs is available on our website. <https://laborcenter.uiowa.edu/programs-courses>

Unemployment Benefits and Appeals – program taught remotely via Zoom

**November 15, 2021
(9:00 am – 3:30 pm)**

Unemployment insurance benefits are a lifeline for countless Iowans continuing to face hardships brought about by the pandemic. This session provides support to

worker advocates interested in learning more about how to assist people seeking benefits. During this session we will discuss unemployment benefits eligibility, the appeals process, how union can help members navigate the process, and overpayment waivers.

Registration: \$100/person – call 319-335-4144

Union Financial Officers' School – ** new program dates ** This program will be in person

December 13-14, 2021

Iowa Memorial Union,

University of Iowa, Iowa City

This course is designed to equip union officers to develop sound internal policies and navigate requirements associated with private and public sector union financial recordkeeping. Includes sessions on IRS reporting requirements, LM

and PERB forms, audits, accounting skills and budgets.

Registration fee: \$225/person – 319-335-4144.

UPCOMING LABOR COUNCIL PROGRAMS

Iowa City:

**Steward School
Saturday, Oct. 23
(9:00 am–1:00 pm)**

**Johnson County Fairgrounds,
3109 Old Hwy 218 S.**

Learn about the role and rights of a steward, as well as valuable grievance handling and investigation techniques. The class will cover Weingarten rights, the right to information, arbitrator standards, and preparing for and presenting grievances. Free and open to union members. Presented by the Iowa City Federation of Labor with support

from the Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO. Please RSVP to Greg Hearn at 319-361-2374 or ghearns@iowalabor.com

Dubuque:

**Understanding & Defending Your Rights Under the Contract
Monday, Oct. 25
(6:00-8:00 pm)**

**Dubuque Labor Temple,
1610 Garfield Avenue**

Free workshop for union members (enrollment limited to 25 persons). Learn more about how to understand and defend your rights under your collective bargaining agreement.

Presented by the Dubuque Federation of Labor with support from the Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO. Please register by emailing Mary Sand at marym.sand@yahoo.com



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(515) 262-9571

iowaaflcio.org

Officers & Staff

President

CHARLIE WISHMAN
charlie@iowaaflcio.org

Secretary/Treasurer

PETER HIRD
peter@iowaaflcio.org

Political Director

JULIANNE FROSLONE
julianne@iowaaflcio.org

Communications Director

LANCE COLES
lance@iowaaflcio.org

Organizing Director

BEN MURRY
ben@iowaaflcio.org

Bookkeeper

JAMIE MILLER
jamie@iowaaflcio.org



Iowa Federation of Labor Affiliates are All Members of the Midwest Labor Press Association

The officers and Executive Board voted in August to pay the MLPA membership fees for all those affiliated with the Iowa Federation of Labor.

The Midwest Labor Press Association's objective is to increase the effectiveness of the Labor Press in the Midwest Region of the United States and Canada, as a communications medium in support of the goals of the Labor Movement

Any IFL Affiliate that has a person who manages a web page, facebook or twitter account, a newsletter or any form of communications is now a member of the MLPA.

"Labor communicators have always played some of the most important roles in the labor movement from the early days of organizers

spreading the word about worker's rights through song, to today's social media platforms and other new ways of engagement. With the

network of labor communicators become better connected and better equipped to help fight labor's battles." said Charlie Wishman,



spread of misinformation about so many important things in today's society to union members, labor communicators' role has never been as important as it is now. We're happy to take this step to help Iowa's

President of the Iowa Federation of Labor AFL-CIO.

If you would like more information, contact Lance Coles, Communications Director, Iowa Federation of Labor at lance@iowaaflcio.org.

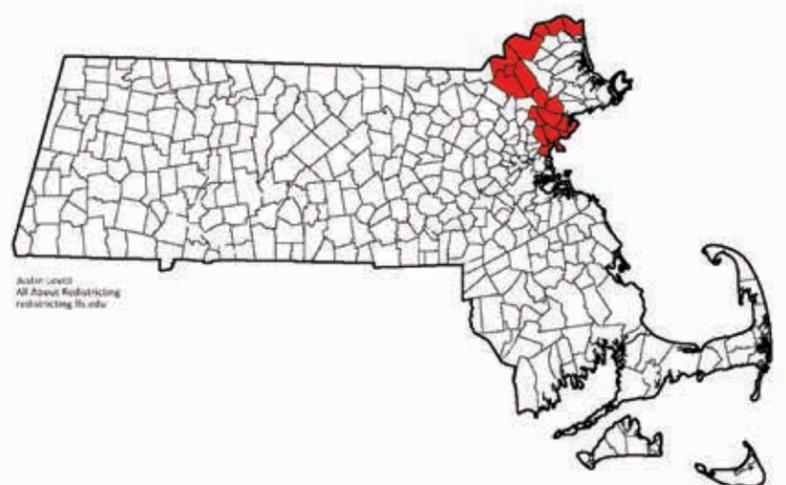
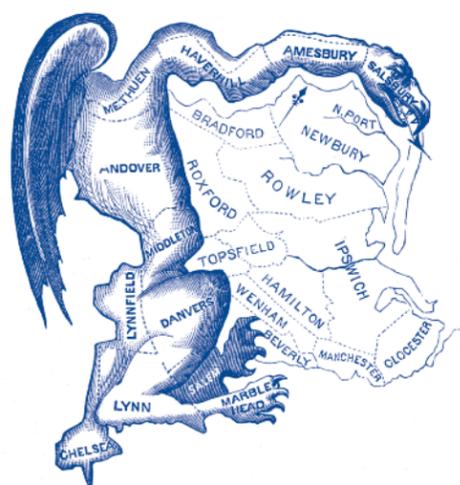
Redistricting: Why It Matters

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status as the gold standard of redistricting in this country. If not, it will be up to the people (us) to make sure the process is fair and

free from gerrymandering.

Note: The term gerrymandering comes from Vice President Elbridge Gerry. When he was Governor of Massachusetts in 1812, he signed

a redistricting bill that approved a parisian leaning district that looked like the shape of a salamander! (Photo Credit to Loyola Law School, see below)



The President's View . . .

What's a Just Transition for Dislocated Energy Sector Workers? Ask Minnesota



**IFL President
Charlie Wishman**

With the changing economy before us and coming faster than ever, we face a lot of challenges. Aging infrastructure, environmental regulation, new technologies, energy efficiency standards, and more are going to cause massive dislocation of workers in this state. These disruptions in the economy affect workers, and entire communities. We already have a shortage of workers in Iowa. We can plan for these disruptions in advance, but we don't. Why not?

In the wake of such large changes, government officials must find a way forward. However, no one in Iowa government cares or knows where to start. We're really at the most rudimentary step, recognizing the need to plan and then take action.

Thirty-six states, not including Iowa, require either by statute or regulation that utilities file a publicly available "Integrated Resource Plan" with their utilities board when changes are to occur. An IRP is a public process in which planners

work together with all interested and relevant parties to identify and prepare energy options that serve the highest possible public good. In other words, utilities need to notify the public in advance before a shutdown in a power plant occurs. Right now in Iowa, no notice is required.

Beyond that, our neighbors to the north, Minnesota are leading the way in ensuring that communities and workers aren't left behind. They've created "Just Transition Funds" for workers and communities facing difficult challenges in the energy industry, but they've taught us that it takes several steps.

I. Engage Early – The sooner you know there is going to be a shutdown or closing, the sooner you can make sure you can plan for the future. A good step for Iowa would be for utilities to be required to give notice, through an Integrated Resource Plan or other measures, that a community and its citizens are going to be impacted.

II. Engage Diverse Stakeholder Perspectives – Surely not everyone in the community will have one vision for what's to come next, but engaging with as many perspectives is important, and in our case, the union being directly involved in these discussions are critical.

III. Find Out the Facts – You need to know exactly how this is going to impact the local, the community, and the individual workers involved. In heated debates on subjects like these it's easy to lose sight of the idea that facts and data matter in these discussions.

IV. Find Funding – Either through the federal government, or by advocating for our state government to take a role, make sure there

to keep an eye on the long term.

In Minnesota, a "Just Transition Fund" has provided direct assistance to dozens of communities and



is funding to make sure that communities can execute a plan to have a just transition.

V. Bring the Community Together - Work together to create the future – Bring the entire community together, and make sure that worker voices are heard and included in decision making about your community's future.

VI. Plan for the Long Term – The community is going to go through a major change, and humans don't deal well with change. A new vision for the local community or area will take time to achieve. Even when focusing on immediate needs, be sure

thousands of workers struggling with transitions. Through that work, they have gathered a wealth of experience, and we would be foolish to not look to them for advice.

With a state like Iowa facing a worker shortage, we can't afford have highly skilled energy sector workers leave. We can either face this new future together as Iowans, or we can leave people to face this on their own. All we must do is look around us, look at other states who have good ideas, and gather the political will to help our communities that are going to go through a big transition in the very near future.

Divided and Fatigued

By Jay Smith & Dennis McElwain

At this point, the COVID-19 virus has affected our daily lives for over a year and half. During this time, battle lines have been drawn over (1) masks vs. no-masks; (2) no large gatherings vs. large gatherings; (3) mandatory vaccinations vs. no mandatory vaccinations; (4) bleach vs. no bleach; (5) Invermectin vs. no Invermectin; etc. As these battle lines have been drawn, some people have argued against mask mandates and mandatory vaccination requirements asserting their personal freedom. In the meantime, the COVID-19 virus has continued on, disrupting our workplaces, limiting our ability to engage safely in activities that we enjoyed before the virus arrived, and further dividing us as a nation.

Throughout these debates, which have become increasingly uncivil, it is clear that there is a vocal minority of people who refuse to do the right

thing to help us protect one another and move beyond this pandemic. Those in the vocal minority include members of the Labor Movement. And, it is our job to talk to them, to help educate them, and to help protect those individuals. To live up to the Labor Movement's maxim – "an injury to one, is an injury to all."

We, as a Labor Movement, need to confront this hard fact head on in

order to protect each other because it not only benefits the individual but the movement as a whole. When a brother or sister has COVID-19, the brother or sister cannot work, cannot provide for his or her family, and depending upon how the disease affects that particular individual, it could cost the person his or her life. The effect of contracting the virus, however, is not simply

personal – it affects the entire bargaining unit. For example, another member of the bargaining unit is going to have to cover the sick employee's lost shifts, health care costs for the bargaining unit will go up, and if the person is unable to return to work, the employer will have to find a replacement and the Union will have to convince the new employee to sign a card. The decision not to wear a mask or to receive the vaccine is not simply personal to the person, rather, it is a decision that has negative consequences beyond the person's claim of "personal freedom."

To confront this problem, on September 9, 2021, President Biden directed the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to create an emergency temporary standard (OSHA Rule) for private businesses with 100 or more employees that will require employees

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The 65th Annual Iowa Federation Of Labor AFL-CIO Convention

The 65th Annual Iowa Federation of Labor AFL-CIO Convention was one of the largest in years.

With 143 Delegates over a dozens of guests, the convention, at Prairie Meadows in Altoona, went well, and was held safely, with attendees required to wear masks.

The theme of this year's convention was "Organize – the time is now!" and many of the speaks promoted this. Newly elected President of the AFL-CIO, Liz Shuler addressed the convention via Zoom, and said the theme was just what the labor movement needed to do, especially since the approval rate of unions is at an all-time high.

President of the RSDWU, Stuart Applebaum, gave a rousing speech, in person to the delegates and also emphasized the need for unions to get out and organize.

Congresswoman Cindy Axne addressed the crowd, thanking unions for all they do and for supporting her.

President Charlie Wishman and Secretary/Treasurer Pete Hird were elected as President and Secretary/Treasurer.

There were several new officers elected to the executive board: Paula Martinez (AFSCME), Tom Townsend (IBEW), Tim Linn (USW), Keith Brown (NALC), Mike Weckman (LiUNA), Allison Ritchie (AFSCME), Kelly Steinke (NALC) and Ed Curley (AFGE).

Returning officers were: Mike McCarthy (ARA), Jeff Shudak (UA), Simplicio Kuelo (UFCW), Richard Fraunholz (AFSCME), Bill Gerhard (LiUNA), Kelli Harrison (UAW),

Rick Moyle (IAM), Jeff Hartford (USW), John Herrig (IAM), Rosa Wilson (CWA), Jeremiah Fitch (IUPAT), Jesse Case (IBT), Bon-

There were three resolutions offered at the convention and all three passed unanimously.

The first was to induct Ken Sagar,

third resolution was to create a scholarship in memory of Union Brother and Lawyer, MacDonald Smith. The scholarship would be



The 2021 Iowa Federation of Labor AFL-CIO Hall of Fame was Held at the IFL Convention in August. Past inductees with the new. Back Row: Robert Connett; Francis Giunta; Mark Fallis, Tom Courtney; Jerry Kearns and Lance Coles. Front Row. First three are new inductees. Tony Stephens (accepting for his father) Randy Boulton, Ken Sagar and Jan Laue.

nie Winther (CWA), Kim Karol (APWU), Patrick Wells (IBEW) and Jeremy Maske (AFGE).

Chris Glover (USW), Jon Arnold (APWU) and Cody Leistikow (UAW) were elected as Auditors.

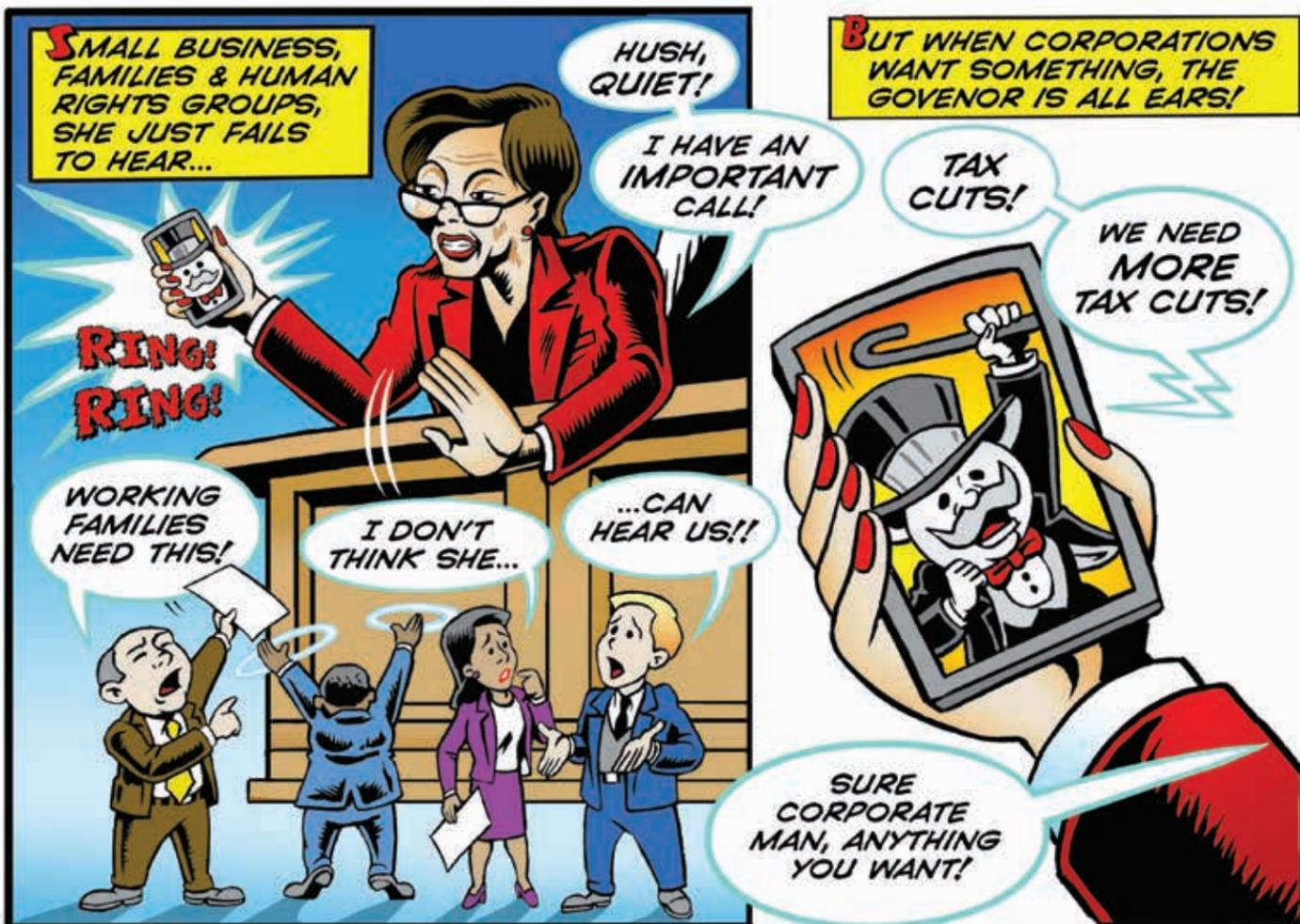
Randy Boulton and Anthony Stephens into the Iowa Labor Hall of Fame. The second was from the APWU asking the delegates and affiliates to support the removal of Postmaster General DeJoy. The

managed by a committee made up from the IFL Executive Council and the Smith family. The resolution also called to establish rules and that the scholarship be \$500 on an annual basis. This scholarship would be eligible to any union member, or child or grandchild for any post-secondary education. (For example, a community college, college, university, trade school, apprenticeship school, etc.)

Some of the other guest speakers included: Rob Sand (Iowa State Auditor), Matt Sinovic (Progress Iowa), Ashley Coop (On With Life), Bree Halverson (Blue Green) Stephen Cousins (AFL-CIO Central Region Director) Anne Discher and Mike Owen (Common Good) Andi Petrovic (Global Trade Watch) Todd Anderson (AFL-CIO Director of State and Local organizing strategies), Sheryl Strohecker (Midwest Labor Press), Jennifer Konfrst (Iowa House democratic Leader) Zach Wahls (Iowa Senate Democratic Leader), Rick Moyle and Jay Larson (LUCC) and Mary Sellers (Central Iowa United Way).

The University of Iowa Labor Center presented three classes at the convention: Community Organizing; Economy for the Common Good and Labor History.

There was a special reception on Wednesday eve to honor IFL President Emeritus, Ken Sagar on his retirement from the IFL.



“WHAT NOW?!!”

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Voting Is Your Right

By Al Womble

Voting has been considered a near sacred right in the United States since its inception and over the years parties, many organizations, and even churches have worked very hard to get people registered to vote and to get people to the polls. However, labor unions have historically been head and shoulders above the rest when it comes to organizing our members in order to make sure that working class people have representation that reflects their concerns and values. In a world where large companies and big dollar constituency groups normally control policies, and who normally hold the greatest sway over the policy makers that are elected to office, it has been unions who have been able to organize to ensure that the hard working men and women of this country have labor-minded representation in the halls of government.

Now the GOP controlled State government of the State of Iowa is doing all that it can in order to make it more difficult for the Unions to register voters and for our members to vote in order to take away that power from working class Americans. This is a direct assault against the men and women who have built this country, are still building this country and do all of the jobs that make daily life possible in our communities.

Below you will find a list of the restrictive voter registration and voting law changes that now burden Iowa voters:

VOTER REGISTRATION

Voters must register to vote 15 days or more before the election to appear on the voter register on election day (formerly 11 days, and 10 days for general elections). Voters may still register to vote on election day, or when voting absentee in person. With both proof of identity and proof of residence.

A voter who has moved and has therefore been sent mail by the County Auditor to inquire of their proper address, and who did not vote in the most recent general election (formerly the last two gen-

eral elections), shall be marked inactive.

ABSENTEE VOTING

The first day to submit an absentee ballot request form to your County Auditor is 70 days before an

election (formerly 120 days).

The first day County Auditors may mail absentee ballots to voters in 20 days before the election (formerly 29 days).

The first day to vote absentee in person at the Auditor's Office is 20 days before an election (formerly 29 days).

The first day to vote absentee in person at a satellite location is 20 days before the election (formerly 29 days), and satellite voting locations may only be established by a public petition with a minimum of 100 signatures (formerly County Auditors could establish satellite locations on their own motion),

Absentee ballot requests for voting by mail must be received by 15 days before the election (formerly 11 days, and 10 days for general elections).

VOTING AT THE POLLS

Polls close at 8:00 pm for all elections (formerly 9:00 pm for primary and general elections).

Employers must allow employees two consecutive hours to vote on election day, if they do not al-

ready have two consecutive hours off during the time the polls are open (formerly three hours).

ABSENTEE BALLOT VOTING

Absentee ballots must be received by the county auditor by 8:00 pm on election day, (formerly ballots were valid if postmarked before Election Day and received by the Monday following the election).

RETURNING ABSENTEE BALLOTS

The only people who may return a voted absentee ballot other than the voter are, someone living in the voter's household, an immediate family member, or the two special election officials who deliver a ballot to the resident of a healthcare facility. Delivery agents cannot be the

voter's employer or an agent of the employer, an OFFICER OR AGENT OF THE VOTER'S UNION, an actual or implied agent for a political party, candidate or committee.

Previously one of the best services provided by Unions was turn-

ing in absentee ballots of our members to ensure their vote got into the county auditor's office on time and was counted. Now that service that we have traditionally provided for our members has been stripped away. The shortened times to register, to request an absentee ballot, to mail that ballot in and even the shortened number of hours that the polls are open all equate to making it harder for working men and women to have their vote counted and ultimately to have representation that cares about their issues. Therefore, it is essential that we work harder to organize so that we can elect officials who will work for labor, not against it.

For more details on voter registration and current voting laws please visit the Secretary of State's website at <https://sos.iowa.gov>.

Advocates for Minor Leaguers



#FairBall

On September 18th, Advocates for Minor Leaguers raised awareness nationwide in support of better pay and living conditions for minor league baseball players. Members of Western Iowa Labor Federation and Nebraska AFL-CIO in Omaha, NE and Quad City Federation of Labor and Iowa AFL-CIO in Davenport, IA volunteered their time to hand out flyers and bracelets with the hashtag #FairBall. Most minor league ballplayers make less than \$15,000 and some make less than \$5,000 per year. Major League teams, worth on average \$1.9 billion, are responsible for paying the players. We think they can afford to treat their employees better.



Divided and Fatigued

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to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or undergo weekly COVID-19 testing. That same day, President Biden issued an Executive Order mandating that the entire Federal workforce to be vaccinated against COVID-19, with exceptions only as required by law. In the coming weeks, OSHA will announce the new emergency rule.

In the meantime, it is important for the Labor Movement to begin to prepare itself to bargain over the effects of these two decisions by President Biden in order to protect

those members of the movement who have grown weary of masks and vaccines. To this end, the Labor Movement should ready itself to engage in effects bargaining over a variety of subjects, including (1) what happens if an employee is unable to obtain a vaccine by the date required by the employer; (2) how long to new employees have to become vaccinated; (3) whether employees may choose on vaccine as opposed to another; (4) the effect upon an employee who refuses to obtain the vaccine; (5) whether vaccinated employees will be provided

with paid leave for breakthrough infections; (6) the scope of continued mitigation efforts, etc.

At this time and in this moment, the Labor Movement must act to ensure its seat at the table with respect to the new emergency OSHA rule and President Biden's Executive Order for the federal workforce, to protect its members, to grow its membership, and to ensure that there are no more self-inflicted injuries. The COVID-19 Pandemic has divided some of us and we are fatigued, but we also have been presented with an opportunity to bring workers together, to ensure safer workplaces, and to move past this horrible pandemic.



After Governor Cuts UI Benefits, Iowa Job Deficit Grows

By Peter Fisher, Research Director, Common Good Iowa

In June, Governor Reynolds discontinued all Federal pandemic unemployment programs, three months before those programs were set to expire. Thousands of Iowans lost benefits that had been putting tens of millions of dollars into their pockets and into the state economy. Her rationale? Employers were complaining of worker shortages, and generous UI benefits were blamed.

So how did that work out? By the end of July, Iowa still faced a jobs deficit of 65,000 – the number of jobs needed to get back to the pre-pandemic level of employment. And the situation actually worsened in August, as the Delta variant spread and people pulled back from work and from spending; non-farm payroll employment in Iowa fell by 6,500 jobs.

The labor shortage is real, though of course what it means is that thousands of workers are unwilling to return to low-wage, difficult jobs where their health may be at risk. Thousands of Iowa workers dropped out of the labor market altogether in the past year and a half. The labor force participation rate (the share of the population 16 and older that is working or looking for work) fell from 69.9 percent to 66.8 percent between February 2020 and June 2021, one of the steepest declines among the states. Since then, it has edged up only slightly, to 66.8 percent in August, hardly a stampede back into the labor force.

So apparently the governor’s decision to cut pandemic unemployment assistance failed miserably to achieve its stated goal – to force workers back into jobs. A recent analysis of job growth from June to August by Dave Swenson, Iowa State economist, found that this failure was replicated across the country. There was a stampede of red state governors cutting unemployment benefits in June: 26 states ended pandemic UI, all but one with a Republican Governor. And guess what? Those states experienced just .5 percent job growth from June to August, while the 24 states that continued to support workers with Federal pandemic employment programs experienced growth of 0.9 percent.

JOBS GREW SLOWER IN JULY AND AUGUST IN STATES THAT ENDED PANDEMIC UI IN JUNE

If we look at the sector experiencing some of the most severe job losses and labor shortages – the “leisure and hospitality” sector (restaurants, bars, hotels and motels) -- the trend is more pronounced: job growth of 1.5 percent in states that ended

benefits early, growth of 3.5 percent in states that continued to provide them. The same pattern shows up in manufacturing, while in retail and in education and health care, there

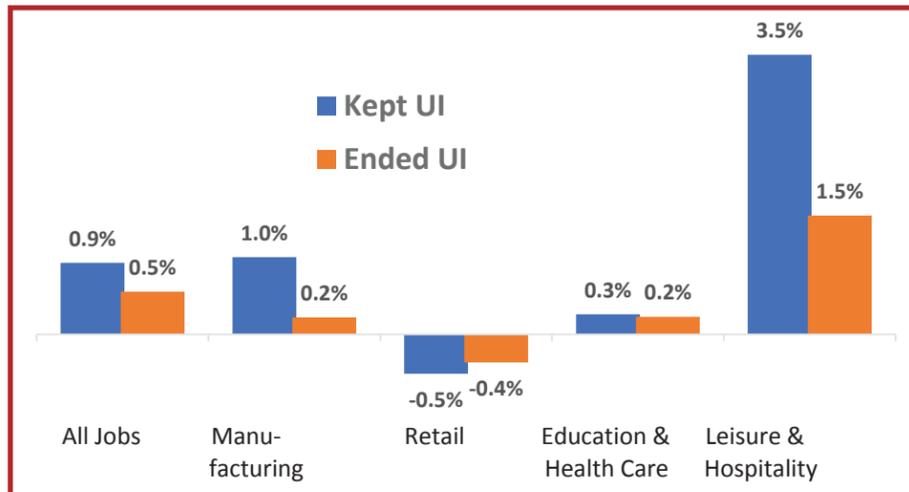
was little difference in job growth between the two sets of states. So why would employment grow more slowly in states that cut UI benefits? There are a couple of possible reasons. First of all, the pandemic UI benefits were entirely funded by the Federal government; the states that ended them in June immediately lost a huge infusion of federal money, money that would have been spent in the local economy and supported more jobs. Second, the states that ended pandemic UI were in large part states with a lax response to COVID, weak or non-existent masking requirements,

schooling responsibilities during the pandemic. Faced with a choice of staying at home versus going to work and putting children in an unsafe environment in a day care center or a school, many chose to stay home.

So if the governor really wants to get Iowans back into the labor force and solve the worker shortage problem it’s clear what she should do. Make schools and workplaces safe places to be; vigorously enforce occupational health and safety regulations; encourage employers to impose vaccination requirements for employees and allow them to do so for customers; allow school districts to decide how to keep their children safe; reinstitute widespread free COVID testing. And use the hundreds of millions in American Rescue Plan Act funds flowing to the state now, to help Iowa workers, not just to give businesses housing tax credits and make sure their UI contribution rates stay low.

Of the 10 states with broad mask mandates still in place, only Louisiana is among the states that cut UI benefits. The average percent of the population fully vaccinated is 49 percent among states ending pandemic UI, 60 percent among the states continuing it.

PERCENT INCREASE IN PAYROLL EMPLOYMENT



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So why would employment grow more slowly in states that cut UI benefits? There are a couple of possible reasons. First of all, the pandemic UI benefits were entirely funded by the Federal government; the states that ended them in June immediately lost a huge infusion of federal money, money that would have been spent in the local economy

and lower vaccination rates. In other words, they were states where restaurant and other service workers faced higher health risks by returning to work.

It is also not hard to understand why labor force participation remains low. Those who dropped out of the job market during the pandemic were disproportionately women, who have no doubt borne the brunt of child care and home

Laborers Support Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework



Local 177 Business Manager Mike Weckman & Great Plains Laborers’ District Council Business Manager Tony Penn along with state and local leaders were joined in downtown Des Moines to show support for the Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework. The time is now to rebuild our nation’s infrastructure. The \$1 trillion Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework is a robust investment that will restore our country and create good jobs. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework will create hundreds of thousands of good family-supporting jobs and rebuild our infrastructure to the world-class standards we deserve.

Iowa Federation Of Labor 2021 Election Endorsements

AREA LABOR FEDERATION ENDORSEMENTS

Great River Area Labor Federation

CITY	CANDIDATE	OFFICE SEEKING	DISTRICT	CHAPTER
CLINTON	Jennifer Austin	CLINTON School Board	At Large	Clinton Labor Congress
DUBUQUE	Brad Cavanagh	DUBUQUE Mayor	At Large	Dubuque Federation of Labor
	Susan Farber	DUBUQUE City Council	Ward 1	Dubuque Federation of Labor
	Danny Sprank	DUBUQUE City Council	Ward 3	Dubuque Federation of Labor
KEOKUK	Roslyn Garcia	KEOKUK City Council	Ward 3	Lee County Labor

Hawkeye Area Labor Council

CITY	CANDIDATE	OFFICE SEEKING	DISTRICT	CHAPTER
CEDAR FALLS	T.J. Frein	CEDAR FALLS City Council	At Large	Black Hawk Union Council
	Jeff Orvis	CEDAR FALLS School Board	At Large	Black Hawk Union Council
CEDAR RAPIDS	Marty Hoeger	CEDAR RAPIDS City Council	District 1	Hawkeye Labor Council
	Dale Todd	CEDAR RAPIDS City Council	District 3	Hawkeye Labor Council
	Ashley Vanorny	CEDAR RAPIDS City Council	District 5	Hawkeye Labor Council
	Tyler Olsen	CEDAR RAPIDS City Council	At Large	Hawkeye Labor Council
	Jennifer Borcharding	CEDAR RAPIDS School Board	District 3	Black Hawk Union Council
	Brice Gardner	KIRKWOOD Community College Trustee	At Large	Hawkeye Labor Council
CORALVILLE	Hai Huynh	CORALVILLE City Council	At Large	Iowa City Federation of Labor
	Meghann Foster	CORALVILLE Mayor	At Large	Iowa City Federation of Labor
IOWA CITY	Megan Alter	IOWA CITY City Council	At Large	Iowa City Federation of Labor
	Bruce Teague	IOWA CITY City Council	At Large	Iowa City Federation of Labor
	Shawn Harmsen	IOWA CITY City Council	District B	Iowa City Federation of Labor
	Ruthina Malone	IOWA CITY School Board	At Large	Iowa City Federation of Labor
	J.P. Claussen	IOWA CITY School Board	At Large	Iowa City Federation of Labor
MARSHALLTOWN	Mike Ladehoff	MARSHALLTOWN City Council	Ward 1	Iowa River Labor Coalition
MASON CITY	Jacob Schweitzer	MASON CITY School Board	At Large	North Iowa Nine
	Cindy Garza	MASON CITY School Board	At Large	North Iowa Nine
	Alan Steckman	MASON CITY School Board	At Large	North Iowa Nine
WATERLOO	Quentin Hart	WATERLOO Mayor	At Large	Black Hawk Union Council
	John Chiles	WATERLOO City Council	Ward 1	Black Hawk Union Council
	Nia Wilder	WATERLOO City Council	Ward 3	Black Hawk Union Council
	Ray Feuss	WATERLOO City Council	Ward 5	Black Hawk Union Council
	Ron Nichols	WATERLOO City Council	At Large	Black Hawk Union Council

South Central Iowa Federation of Labor

CITY	CANDIDATE	OFFICE SEEKING	DISTRICT	CHAPTER
ANKENY	Bill Lu	ANKENY City Council	At Large	South Central Iowa Federation of Labor
DES MOINES	Bill Gray	DES MOINES City Council	Ward 1	South Central Iowa Federation of Labor
	Connie Bosen	DES MOINES City Council	At Large	South Central Iowa Federation of Labor
	Josh Mandelbaum	DES MOINES City Council	Ward 3	South Central Iowa Federation of Labor
	Jackie Norris	DES MOINES Public School	At Large	South Central Iowa Federation of Labor
JOHNSTON	Lya Williams	JOHNSTON School District	At Large	South Central Iowa Federation of Labor
	Tiara Mays	JOHNSTON School District	At Large	South Central Iowa Federation of Labor
URBANDALE	Any Croll	URBANDALE City Council	At Large	South Central Iowa Federation of Labor
	Larry McBurney	URBANDALE City Council	At Large	South Central Iowa Federation of Labor
	Rachel Kent	URBANDALE School Board	At Large	South Central Iowa Federation of Labor
WEST DES MOINES	Kevin Trevillyan	WEST DES MOINES City Council	Ward 1	South Central Iowa Federation of Labor
	Renee Hardman	WEST DES MOINES City Council	At Large	South Central Iowa Federation of Labor
	Lila Starr	WEST DES MOINES School Board	At Large	South Central Iowa Federation of Labor
WINDSOR HEIGHTS	Lauren Cambell	WINDSOR HEIGHTS City Council	At Large	South Central Iowa Federation of Labor
	Joseph Jones	WINDSOR HEIGHTS City Council	At Large	South Central Iowa Federation of Labor

Western Iowa Labor Federation

CITY	CANDIDATE	OFFICE SEEKING	DISTRICT	CHAPTER
COUNCIL BLUFFS	Steve Gorman	COUNCIL BLUFFS City Council	At Large	Southwest Iowa Labor Federation
	Patrick Peters	COUNCIL BLUFFS School Board	At Large	Southwest Iowa Labor Federation
	Robin McDaniel	COUNCIL BLUFFS School Board	At Large	Southwest Iowa Labor Federation
	Lauren Myers	COUNCIL BLUFFS School Board	At Large	Southwest Iowa Labor Federation
SIOUX CITY	Jan George	SIOUX CITY School Board	At Large	Northwest Iowa Labor Federation
	Amanda Gibson	SIOUX CITY School Board	At Large	Northwest Iowa Labor Federation