

APWU SUPPORTS PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO VOTE, VOTE-BY-MAIL INITIATIVES

In November, voters will make decisions at the ballot box on numerous federal, state, and local candidates, and multiple initiatives and referendums. Issues like our public Postal Service, workers' rights, infrastructure, climate, and voting rights are all on the line and in the hands of voters. That's why the APWU staunchly supports "Get Out the Vote" and vote at home initiatives to elect leaders who will fight for postal workers and our issues. We know that by guaranteeing the ability of our neighbors to vote safely and easily, we are giving them a say in how our government works for the people.

We know that it's not always easy to make the time to go vote, especially for working families. That's why we lobby Congress to pass Vote-by-Mail initiatives, such as the *Vote at Home Act of 2023*, (S.700 in the Senate and its companion bill H.R. 1439 in the House). If passed, this legislation would:

- **Require automatic voter registration.**
- **Allow every registered voter to receive a ballot with pre-paid return postage.**
- **Grant the Postal Service funds to cover election mail costs.**

Voting at home with Vote-by-Mail ballots means less time at the polling place and more time to make informed decisions about your vote. This bill seeks to expand access to the ballot box for all, especially those with disabilities who may have difficulty leaving their home.

The APWU also ardently supports voter protection legislation, such as the *Freedom to Vote Act* (H.R. 11 and S. 2344). This bill would strengthen and expand voting rights by:

- **Making Election Day a federal holiday.**
- **Mandating two weeks of early voting.**
- **Expanding voter registration through automatic, same-day, and online registration.**
- **Requiring states to allow Vote-by-Mail and eliminate burdensome excuse requirements.**
- **Banning partisan gerrymandering.**
- **Strengthening disclosure requirements for money in politics.**

The APWU has always fought to protect the right to vote. Although Congress passed the *Voting Rights Act* nearly 60

years ago, most states have put up barriers to voting access. Tactics to suppress voter turnout include restrictions on voter registration, strict ID requirements, voter roll purges, partisan gerrymandering, and limited access to early voting and Vote-by-Mail.

The APWU will continue to fight for legislation that guarantees safe and secure elections for all, removes excessive voter ID requirements, makes Election Day a federal holiday, and expands early voting and Vote-by-Mail. We know that voting by mail will always be a key part of making sure that working people's voices are heard. The APWU is proud to defend the integrity of Vote-by-Mail and continue the Postal Service's more than 150-year tradition of enabling the American people to safely and securely send their ballots in the mail.

"It is crucial that everyone goes to [vote.org](https://www.vote.org) to check their voter registration status today!" said Legislative and Political Director Judy Beard. "Due to recent voter roll purges across the country, ask your coworkers, friends, and family to check their status as well to ensure they are all active voters."

For information about how you can get involved, visit: apwu.org/labor-votes-afl-cio.

KEY UPDATES FROM THE 27TH BIENNIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

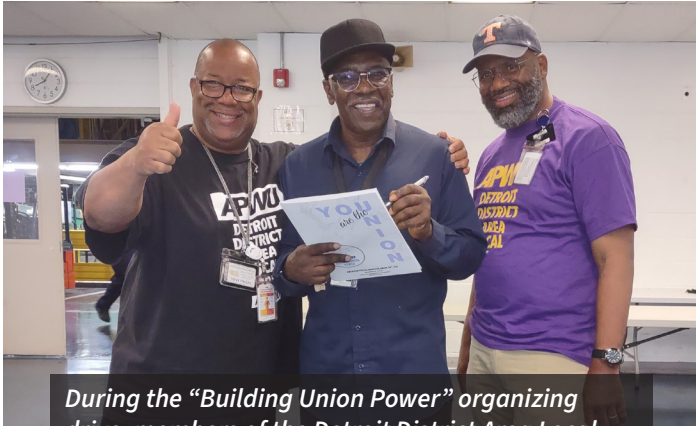
From July 15-18, the APWU held our 27th Biennial National Convention. At the biennial conventions, APWU delegates, elected by their locals, set APWU policies and priorities in the form of resolutions that are discussed and debated by the convention body. While many resolutions addressed collective bargaining issues and priorities for our negotiations, below are some of the other actions taken by the Convention:

- Creating an additional Southern Region Maintenance NBA position and adding a new Assistant Director (C) to the Clerk Division.
- Voting to translate the CBA and JCIM into Spanish.
- Opposing the anti-worker, anti-union Project 2025.
- Calling for a ceasefire in Gaza and demanding an end to military aid to Israel until that is achieved.
- Soundly defeating a resolution calling for the APWU to run "Dump DeJoy" ads on the basis of previously adopted resolutions and that it would not be productive for members going forward.

Find the full 27th Biennial National Convention recap online at apwu.org/convention

“BUILDING UNION POWER” ORGANIZING DRIVE RECRUITS MORE THAN 8,700 NEW MEMBERS

We did it! You answered our calls to sign up 5,000 new members of the APWU by Opening Day of contract negotiations to show management the strength of our worker power. APWU National sent emails, texts, and letters to members and nonmembers alike highlighting the benefits of being a part of our great union, showing everyone what a difference our union makes. We encouraged locals and members like you to hold organizing drives and to ask nonmember coworkers to join the union.



During the “Building Union Power” organizing drive, members of the Detroit District Area Local recruit their newest member of the APWU.

While APWU National received many membership applications, the local recruiting efforts blew our numbers out of the water. At the end of the organizing campaign, at least 463 locals recruited a new member – and we signed up 3,700 more than our original goal! This is because union members came together to build a stronger and more active membership. We stood together in what was a true grassroots campaign and success from the workroom floor to the negotiating table.

“Management will take every opportunity to turn a nonmember against the union to support their efforts,” said Organization Director Anna Smith. “Let’s make it known, loud and clear, that we are increasing our union power so that we can say with one voice ‘Union Proud, Say It Loud - Good Contract Now!’”

APWU LEADERSHIP Institute APPLICATIONS OPEN UNTIL SEPT. 13, 2024

The Leadership Institute is an educational program that focuses on topics ranging from organizing, bargaining, and representation, to legislation, community alliances, and building the APWU and union movements. The Institute helps strengthen and enhance the leadership skills of local and state leaders, and union activists across the country. APWU National Headquarters will cover all the costs, including lost compensation, of the participants. Applications are open to all full dues-paying APWU members in good standing with demonstrated involvement in the union. Each three-week session will consist of a diverse group of approximately 30 APWU members from all five regions and all crafts. Participants are chosen by an impartial selection process. **Find application materials and more information by visiting: apwu.org/institute.**

SAVE THE DATE

Join APWU members and the public as we rally across the country on Oct. 1 to build a better Post Office. As postal workers, we know best the solutions to end short staffing and keep delivering a strong public Postal Service.



APWU OCT-1

TOP 3 ORGANIZED LOCALS IN EACH CATEGORY

Representing 2000+ Employees

Boston Metro Area Local, MA	94.5%
480-481 Area Local, MI	92.7%
Detroit District Area Local, MI	91.3%

Representing 1000-1999 Employees

Miami Area Local, FL	92.3%
Minneapolis Area Local, MN	92.0%
Queens Area Local, NY	91.8%

Representing 500-999 Employees

Philadelphia BMC Local, PA	97.0%
Trenton Metropolitan Area Local, NJ	96.8%
Portland Area Local, ME	96.7%

Representing 250-499 Employees

Des Moines BMC Local, IA	96.5%
Southern New York Area Local, NY	95.0%
Fox Valley Local, IL	94.2%

Representing 100-249 Employees

Southern Oregon Area Local, OR	94.0%
San Mateo PDC Local, CA	93.3%
Lake County Area Local, IL	93.0%

Representing 50-99 Employees

Arlington Local, TX	94.6%
Wilmington Local 145, NC	94.1%
Red Bank Local, NJ	94.0%

Representing 25-49 Employees, All 100%

Jasper Local, AL; Racine Local, WI; Bellevue Local, WA; and the Farmington Local, MI.

Representing 1-24 Employees, All 100%

Elizabeth City Local, NC; Mt Pleasant Local, IA; La Grange Local, GA; Cuyahoga Falls Local, OH; Kinston Local, NC; Greenwood Local, SC; Dunes Area Local, IN; Ketchikan Local, AK; Slidell Local, LA; Findlay Local, OH; Carson City Local, NV; Wahiawa Local, HI; Gloucester Area Local, MA; and the Kent Local, OH.

GEAR DAY THURSDAYS

Whether it’s a shirt, button, or wristband, wear your APWU gear on the workroom floor every Thursday until we have a new contract!



Wearing our solidarity sends a message to management during contract negotiations that we are “Union Proud, Say it Loud!”