

Higher Ed Unions United

AFSCME MFT MTA SEIU Teamsters UAW

Plan of Action

Legislative Sign on Letter to Speaker Finneran

Each State Representative has been asked to sign onto a letter being sent to Speaker Finneran, asking the Speaker to bring the House into session to override Governor Swift's veto of the higher education contracts. A list of reps and information on whether or not they have signed onto this letter will be available at <http://www-unix.oit.umass.edu/~geo/rollcall.htm>. Check this website frequently to see if your rep is on board. Legislators have until November 1st to sign onto the letter.

Coordinated Phone In Day

On Wednesday October 16th, all local unions will be participating in a phone call blitz to State Representatives urging them to sign onto the letter. All legislators should be called on this day – even if they have already signed onto the letter. The more calls legislators get – even those who are already supportive – the stronger our support will be. Local unions will be asking their members to make calls and tabling in visible campus locations with cell phones. Contact your local union for details.

Post November 1 Activities

If a legislator decides not to sign onto the letter to the Speaker, we will begin to increase the pressure on them. Tactics will include leaflets at public events where we thank the good reps and shame the non-signers, carrying our contract signs at polling places where non-signers are running for re-election, asking our members to write in votes or blank ballots against non-signers, writing letters to the editor in local newspapers, and even civil disobedience.

UMASS Petition

The UMASS unions have adopted a petition to President Bulger urging him to publicly support the override and call on the Speaker to come back into session. The petition will also be used as an organizing tool in conjunction with the phone blitz and other activities. This petition will be presented with much fanfare to President Bulger at the Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday, November 6 at UMASS Amherst.