



CSEA 9200 News April 21, 2017

-Important for ALL CSEA members working and retired, and for their families: There is a very real threat to our NYS Pensions if the proposed NY **Constitutional Convention** is approved. The vote to hold the convention is part of the Election Day proposals Nov 7, 2017. CSEA and all unions in New York state are advocating that all members and their families vote NO to the proposed Constitutional Convention. Tell your family members and other retired friends with a NYS Pension. We will continue to remind about this important matter. *See pdf flyer attachment.*

FAQs: NY State Constitutional Convention

What is a Constitutional Convention?

- Every 20 years, New Yorkers are asked, "Shall there be a convention to revise the constitution and amend the same?"
- If the majority votes yes, 204 elected delegates from across New York will gather to propose changes to any aspect of New York's constitution.

Can I be a delegate?

- Sure! But only if you are very wealthy and extremely politically connected.

When is this taking place?

- On November 7, 2017, voters in New York will have the chance to vote yes or no to a constitutional convention.
- If the majority of voters agree to a convention, we then vote on delegates in 2018. A convention would then convene on April 2, 2019.
- New Yorkers would vote to ratify proposed amendments in November 2019.

Why should I care?

- If we have a constitutional convention, everything in our constitution is up for grabs. EVERYTHING—including protections of pensions, civil service law, unemployment insurance, workers compensation, and the environment.
- It's also incredibly expensive. It is estimated that a convention would cost taxpayers at least \$47 million! Instead, that money could be used for services and infrastructure across the state.
- Remember—they're not going to put in more protections for us, they will only take them away!

How do I stop this?

- On November 7, 2017, vote NO for a constitutional convention.
- Tell your friends and family to vote NO!
- Call Chris Ludlow, your CSEA Political Action Coordinator, at 845-831-1000.

If someone says...

"We need to change corruption in Albany"

Tell him that we can hold elected officials accountable without opening our entire constitution. We frequently make amendments via the legislature with ratification by voters. We can't afford to risk everything for something that we can change ourselves.

"They can't touch my pension"

In 2013, Illinois lawmakers approved legislation to cut pension benefits and cap permissible salaries. The Illinois State Supreme Court struck it down only because their state constitution protected public pensions. The New York State constitution states that our pension benefits "shall not be diminished or impaired." A convention could see this protection disappear!



Protect our constitution. Vote NO in 2017!

-May 6, 2017 Free One-Day Conference from CSEA Region 3. Are you looking to learn? **Consider attending the CSEA Region 3 One-Day Conference, scheduled for May 6, 2017 at the Hyatt House Hotel in Fishkill.** Continental Breakfast and Lunch will be included. This conference is open to all Southern Region CSEA members and features a variety of educational opportunities, including responsible social media practices, active shooter training and an update on the Justice Center. *See the attached agenda and registration form.*

Submit directly to the CSEA Region 3 office in Beacon, NY if you wish to attend.

-Reminder: On April 27, 2017, the Westchester/Putnam AFL-CIO Central Labor Body will conduct their annual **Worker's Memorial Day Vigil** ceremony (approximately 30 minutes) to honor workers who died while working in Westchester and Putnam counties. Free.

The date is April 27 (typo in earlier email)

5 PM at the outdoor fountain plaza on Main and Mamaroneck Ave in White Plains. CSEA members are welcome to attend. Many unions participate each year. Let's hope for sunny clear weather. This event is part of the annual effort to raise funds for Worker Memorial remembrance monuments in the counties. Walking trail memorial benches are being installed under this program. *See attached pdf flyer.*



12TH ANNUAL WORKERS' MEMORIAL DAY VIGIL
JOIN US TO HONOR WORKING MEN & WOMEN
WHO WERE INJURED OR DIED WHILE WORKING IN THE PAST YEAR.

THURSDAY -- APRIL 27, 2017
5PM

WEATHER PERMITTING - OUTDOORS @ RENAISSANCE PLAZA, WHITE PLAINS
(MAMARONECK AVE. & MAIN ST. INTERSECTION - IN FRONT OF THE FOUNTAIN)

INDOOR LOCATION - VINTAGE, 171 MAIN ST., WHITE PLAINS, NY 10601



COCKTAIL RECEPTION TO FOLLOW
VINTAGE BAR & RESTAURANT
171 MAIN ST., WHITE PLAINS, NY 10601
6PM-8PM

RSVP ONLY NEEDED FOR COCKTAIL RECEPTION
KINDLY REPLY BY 4/18 WITH TICKET REQUEST/SPONSORSHIPS
TO JENIFER@WPCLB.ORG

PRICING INFORMATION
COCKTAIL RECEPTION PRICE: \$65 PER PERSON
SPONSORS: INCLUDE \$75 AND YOUR ORGANIZATION WILL BE
ADDED TO OUR VIGIL PROGRAM

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO WPCLB AND MAIL TO
WESTCHESTER/PUTNAM CENTRAL LABOR BODY AFL-CIO
595 WEST HARTSDALE AVE., WHITE PLAINS, NY 10607