



BULLETIN

JULY 13, 2020

MCSC ADOPTS RULE CHANGE TO REQUIRE ANNUAL DUES REAUTHORIZATION

In yet another attempt to defund unions, the Michigan Civil Service Commission voted today to require state employees to reauthorize their union dues deduction every year.

Commissioners Jase Bolger, James Barrett, and Jeff Steffel voted in favor of the change. Commissioner Janet McClelland voted against. McClelland said she voted no because state employees are already able to start or stop their dues deduction at any time.

Several state employee union leaders testified against annual dues reauthorization. Office of State Employer Director Liza Estlund Olson gave comments on behalf of Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and called the change “a slap in the face” of workers who have been risking their lives during the pandemic.

Today’s rule change is yet another power grab by people who want to destroy our union and silence our collective voice so we can’t fight for safety and fairness on the job. We must stand up to these attacks and again prove we are a united front, like we did with Right to Work and the Civil Service rule changes that took effect in 2019.

To be clear, this rule change means that, even if you’ve been a dues-paying member of MCO for years, you must reauthorize dues deductions every year going forward. But as of today, there is no way in the HRMN system to reauthorize. MCO will share info in the coming weeks about how you can reauthorize, once the state puts a mechanism for reauthorization into place. To that end, it’s vitally important that we have an up-to-date home email address (not .gov) and cell phone number for all members. Update your info now at <https://www.mco-seiu.org/UpdateMCO>.

MCO members have faced many challenges throughout our union’s 52-year history, and we’ve overcome them. In this moment, we stand shoulder to shoulder and continue to fight for our rights together.