VOTE NO on the New York State Constitutional Convention

OFFICIAL BALLOT
NEW YORK STATE - GENERAL ELECTION
NOVEMBER 7, 2017

Shall there be a convention to revise the Constitution and amend the same?

YES  NO

Su Voto es importante este 7 de Noviembre. ¿No esta Registrado?

Llene el formulario que se encuentra en la página 13. ¡Sus derechos sindicales y su futuro dependen de ello!
A MESSAGE FROM THE LIUNA GENERAL PRESIDENT
TERRY O’SULLIVAN

A MESSAGE FROM THE LIUNA GENERAL SECRETARY- 
TREASURER & NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL MANAGER
ARMAND E. SABITONI

LOCAL 190 COMPLETES CAPITAL CENTER

LABORERS EXPAND COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

LABORERS SUPPORT COMMUNITY VFW

KOSCIUSZKO BRIDGE

2ND AVENUE SUBWAY

ON THE COVER - VOTE NO ON THE NYS
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION (STICKERS & REGISTRATION)

LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE A HUGE SUCCESS

MEP COMPUTER TRAINING & SAFETY AWARENESS 
THROUGH ART

BUSINESS MANAGER PROFILE:
ANTHONY M. FRESINA - LOCAL UNION 190

A MESSAGE FROM VICE PRESIDENT & NEW ENGLAND 
ASSISTANT REGIONAL MANAGER
VINCENT R. MASINO

TAKE ACTION NOW FOR THE NYS CONSTITUTIONAL 
CONVENTION

This is a publication of the New York State 
Laborers’ Employers’ Cooperation & Education 
Trust, the New York State Laborers’ Health 
& Safety Trust Fund and the New York State 
Laborers’ Political Action Committee, 
18 Corporate Woods Boulevard, Albany, 
New York 12211.

www.nysliuna.org

Armand E. Sabitoni 
LIUNA General Secretary-Treasurer and 
New England Regional Manager

Raymond M. Pocino 
Vice President and Eastern Regional Manager

Vincent R. Masino 
Vice President and New England Assistant 
Regional Manager

New York State Laborers’ Health & Safety Trust Fund
Chairman – Ross Pepe 
Labor Co-Chair – Robert Bonanza 
Labor Trustee – Samuel Capitano 
Labor Trustee – Anthony Fresina 
Labor Trustee – Keith Loscalzo 
Labor Trustee – Michael Prohaska 
Management Trustee – Tony Caropreso 
Management Trustee – Todd Curran 
Management Trustee – Salvatore J. DiLorenzo 
Management Trustee – John O’Hare 
Administrator – Dr. Jim Melius

New York State Laborers’ Employers’ 
Cooperation & Education Trust
Chairman – Ross Pepe 
Labor Co-Chair – Samuel Fresina 
Labor Trustee – Robert Bonanza 
Labor Trustee – Samuel Capitano 
Labor Trustee – Carmine D’Amato 
Labor Trustee – Michael Prohaska 
Management Trustee – Salvatore DiLorenzo 
Management Trustee – Earl Hall 
Management Trustee – John O’Hare 
Management Trustee – Denise Richardson 
Administrator – Dr. Jim Melius 
Executive Director – Frank Marchese

New York State Laborers’ Political 
Action Committee
Chairman – George S. Truicko 
Member – Angelo Angelone 
Member – Frank Biancamiello 
Member – Robert Bonanza 
Member – Samuel Capitano 
Member – L. Todd Diorio 
Member – Samuel Fresina 
Member – Michael McGuire 
Member – Michael Prohaska 
Administrator and Treasurer – Dr. Jim Melius 
Executive Director – John Hutchings
brothers and sisters, for generations the Davis-Bacon Act and state prevailing wage laws have insured that when you build our nation’s roads and bridges and other public infrastructure, you are paid at least the local prevailing rate of pay for the work you do. Now irresponsible governors, low road contractors and other politicians are trying to roll back these protections and cut your pay and benefits by up to 70%. They want to do away with these important wage protections.

The prevailing wage standards have kept government infrastructure projects from undermining local wage standards for decades. The politicians and policy hacks pushing to repeal Davis-Bacon are eager to distract us with baseless charges because if they reveal their true aim – to eliminate all wage and benefit standards – they will have no support. Fortunately, our friends in Congress – both Democrats and Republican – understand how bad a repeal of prevailing wages standards would be and keep fighting off attempts to undermine these wage rates.

In a recent vote in the House of Representatives on whether David Bacon protection should be stripped from a Defense authorization bill, all but two of your New York Representatives voted to maintain those wage protections including eight Republicans – Peter King and Lee Zeldin from Long Island, Dan Donovan from Staten Island, John Faso from the Hudson Valley, Elise Stefanik from the North Country, John Katko from Syracuse, Tom Reed from the Southern Tier, and Claudia Tenney from Utica.

The only New York State Republican who demonstrated that he was out of touch by opposing prevailing wage protections was Chris Collins from Western New York. There were another 45 House Republicans supporting Davis Bacon protections in this bill. We need to keep reminding all of our representatives of the importance of this labor wage protection.

General Secretary-Treasurer and New England Regional Manager Armand E. Sabitoni will discuss further in his column the importance of VOTING NO on the proposal for a CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION on the ballot in November. If such a convention were held, we know that there will be groups proposing to strip prevailing wages protections included in our state constitution. Directly impacted would be the right to be paid fairly for your hard work – this is a target of those voting for the constitutional convention. And we cannot let that happen.

So my strong, proud and united brothers and sisters, mobilize and get involved with our Union to protect prevailing wage laws. MAY YOU ALWAYS FEEL THE POWER, MAY YOU ALWAYS BE THE POWER, MAY YOU ALWAYS USE THE POWER!

In Solidarity,

Terry O’Sullivan

General President – Laborers’ International Union of North America

Without the Davis-Bacon Act and state prevailing wage laws, the ability of you and your fellow union members to make a decent living is in serious danger.
A Message from

THE LiUNA GENERAL SECRETARY-TREASURER

A R M A N D E. S A B I T O N I Needs You to Vote NO on a Constitutional Convention

This Election Day, New York State voters will be asked if the state should hold a convention to consider amending the State Constitution. Our current constitution requires such a vote every 20 years. If the voters approve holding such a convention, we would need to elect delegates who would have to meet (probably for months) to discuss and develop amendments to be brought to the voters for possible ratification.

The staffing, payment of delegates, and meetings would cost millions of dollars. Although holding such a convention sounds innocuous and maybe could do some good, holding a convention could do great harm to you and our contractors and union. It may be presented as a good idea but once the details emerge it becomes clear – very quickly – that a constitutional convention is not a good idea for our members across the state.

A convention would set its own rules, there are no limits on what issues they could try to address or protections they could propose removing from the Constitution. The estimated cost for having a convention range between tens of millions to hundreds of millions of dollars. Seems like a waste of money that could be put to much better use for education, health care, public transportation and infrastructure.

Special interest groups could very well target prevailing wage rate on construction projects, collective bargaining, and care and benefits for injured workers for major changes. All of these could be on the chopping block and who knows what else could be at risk. Our fellow union members in school systems and local government are also targets for wage rollbacks to loss of job protections.

Our goal needs to be to stop the well-funded special interests as well as the Albany politicians who would dominate the convention process and take advantage of the system to rewrite the state constitution to benefit no one but themselves. We’ve been through this process before and know that it will not help our interests and will certainly hurt them.

As a union, we’ve never taken our voting rights for granted and we cannot let this election day pass without exercising our right to put a stop to this nonsense. We need to make sure that you vote on NOVEMBER 7, 2017 and I strongly urge you to VOTE NO on a Constitutional Convention. We will be reaching out to you between now and November at health fairs, union meetings, and by mail, phone and email. In our centerfold, we have a variety of stickers declaring our opposition, as well as a timeline of the convention process.

Your vote matters this November 7th. Not registered? Fill out the form on p. 11 and mail it back. Your rights and livelihood depend on it!

¿No está registrado? Llene el formulario que se encuentra en la página 13. ¡Sus derechos sindicales y su futuro dependen de ello!

Fraternally yours,

Armand E. Sabitoni
General Secretary-Treasurer
Laborers’ International Union of North America
LOCAL 190 COMPLETES CAPITAL CENTER

Laborers Lead in Spurring Development in Downtown Albany’s Revitalization

Members of Local Union 190 were among 11 trades that expertly completed construction of Albany’s Capital Center, an 82,000 square-foot meeting and conference facility.

As an Albany resident for almost all of my life, I’m proud to see this long-awaited project come to fruition,” said Local Union 190 Business Manager Anthony Fresina. “We join our fellow trades in celebrating how the project was done on time and on budget using union labor. This makes the project that much more momentous for our city.”

Local Union 190 supplied as many as 20 members at a time to the project, which builders completed in just 24 months. Members participated in a variety of work including – beginning site work, concrete work, fireproofing and clean up site work. Total employment in all trades averaged 140 workers per day; the completed Capital Center will employ 120 permanent workers, hosting conventions, meetings, athletic and social events.

Capital Center is now part of the Capital Complex, widely regarded as the largest and most unique event space in upstate New York. Located in the heart of downtown Albany, the Capital Complex combines four unique meeting and event venues including the newly completed Albany Capital Center, Empire State Plaza Convention Center, The Egg Performing Arts Center, and the Times Union Center arena. This multi-faceted complex is also adjacent to hotels, restaurants and entertainment venues. Even before opening, the new Albany Capital Center had booked events that are already spurring hotel bookings that promise increases in visitors and spending.

The Albany Capital Center was developed by the Convention Center Authority, created in 2004 as a public benefit corporation by the enactment of Title 28-BB of the Public Authorities Law (Chapter 468 of the Laws of 2004). The Authority was created to meet an immediate need to institute a comprehensive, coordinated program of convention activities in the city of Albany.

A Project Labor Agreement ensured efficient and cost-effective construction, unifying the efforts and skills of union tradespeople including operating engineers, laborers, ironworkers, carpenters, masons, sheet metal workers, plumbers and steamfitters, insulators, tapers and glaziers, roofers, and electricians.
FIRST TWO BUILDINGS OPEN AT COLUMBIA’S NEW MANHATTANVILLE CAMPUS

Members of Local Union 79 helped celebrate the opening of the first two buildings in Columbia University’s new Manhattanville Campus - an ambitious expansion on the far west side of Manhattan between 125th and 133rd streets.

CONSTRUCTION BEGAN IN 2008 AND WILL CONTINUE IN THE FORMER INDUSTRIAL AREA, ULTIMATELY ADDING 6.8 MILLION SQUARE FEET OF ACADEMIC SPACE UPON COMPLETION.

This momentous project also included members of the Concrete Workers’ District Council and Local Union 731, making this a combined effort for our union.

Reflecting the university’s values, the new urban campus is designed to have no barriers, either among academic disciplines or between Columbia and the West Harlem community. Academic facilities will be university-wide in impact, the landscaped grounds will be woven into the existing street grid with no walls or gates. All buildings will be open to the public and programmed for community use at street level.

Local Union 79 members were instrumental in constructing the first two buildings. Throughout the process over 200 members were put to work. The Jerome L. Greene Science Center provides 450,000 square feet of space for the neuro-science researchers of the Mortimer B. Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute. The 60,000 square-foot Lenfest Center for the Arts provides a new home for presentations and performances for Columbia’s School of the Arts, and is a much more publicly accessible home for The Miriam and Ira D. Wallach Art Gallery.

“Columbia University has been a good partner, and I look forward to building an even stronger relationship with them,” said Lavon Chambers, Assistant Director, Greater New York LECET, a leader in the Local Union’s MWBE program. “The Manhattanville Campus is a long-term construction project, so we have the opportunity to build a truly great campus and strengthen the community at the same time.”

Worksite safety has been paramount, and also impressive. The Building Trades Employers’ Association (BTEA) has honored the project with two important awards: a “Safety Culture Award” for instilling a safety-first ethos into the day-to-day culture at the site, and a “Best Safety Practices Award,” recognizing the Manhattanville team for implementing the original safety netting/passive fall protection system.

“Anytime you can work on a project in New York City, especially an iconic university, you realize the impact on so many for many years to come.”

- Laborers’ Local 79 Business Manager MIKE PROHASKA

CONTINUE ➔
LOCAL UNION 1010 PAVING THE WAY FOR A VFW HALL

Thanks to Local Union 1010 and C.A.C. Industries, the VFW Post 3427 in Queensboro Hill has a newly paved parking lot.

This past winter, Local Union 1010 worked with a signatory contractor, C.A.C. Industries, and the General Contractors Association to beautify the parking lot for Veterans of Foreign Wars of the US (VFW) Post 3427 in Queensboro Hill.

“We wanted to try to do something to help them. The parking lot was in terrible shape,” said Local 1010 Business Manager Keith Loscalzo. “A Post member’s wife had fallen and injured herself pretty badly in the parking lot. Part of what the local tries to do is to help out on charitable, community-type projects.”

Loscalzo said this particular project had been planned for more than a year. Local 1010 donated the materials and C.A.C. Industries donated the equipment and the association paid for the manpower. In the end, it took two days to finish the project - one day to rip up the existing asphalt and another day to form, repave and finalize the new parking lot.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY CAMPUS CONTINUED...

From the project’s inception, Columbia established ambitious goals for minority, women and local (MWL) construction contracting and workforce for the course of the development. Results have been impressive for this strong collaborative effort.

From August ’08 – September ’16, Columbia paid $137 million to MWL firms for non-specialty construction work, representing 35 percent of non-specialty construction spending (excluding construction management pay). During that time, the MWL construction workforce delivered almost 1.3 million hours worked for non-specialty construction work, representing 50 percent of the non-specialty workforce hours for the Manhattanville campus.

“We’re proud to help improve the amenities and facilities of this esteemed institution, and we expect our work will help Columbia attract and educate students for generations to come,” said Prohaska.
Local 731 Members Give NYC Commuters Options with the Kosciuszko Bridge

Early this year, Governor Cuomo announced the grand opening of the Kosciuszko Bridge.

The project replaces the existing 78-year-old bridge with a new cable-stayed bridge – with one span to Queens and one span to Brooklyn. The original Kosciuszko Bridge first opened in 1939 under President Roosevelt’s administration.

Additionally, the $555 million Phase I project is the largest single contract the New York State Department of Transportation has ever undertaken – resulting in the construction of the bridge, which includes three lanes of traffic in each direction until the completion of Phase II. The new bridge will benefit approximately 200,000 commuters each day and has a service life of 100 years.

“Now that the first span of the Kosciuszko Bridge is open the project will serve hundreds of thousands of commuters every day,” said Local 731 Business Manager, Joseph D’Amato.

The new Kosciuszko Bridge is New York City’s first cable-stayed bridge, featuring a total of 56 stay cables made up of approximately one million linear feet of steel strands. A cable-stayed bridge uses steel cables placed at an angle to connect the bridge deck to vertical towers that extend high above the roadway, with the pylon tower of the Kosciuszko Bridge measuring 287 feet high.

Additionally, each of the 3,850 tons of structural steel used to construct the new bridge was manufactured in the United States. The bridge measures 1,001 feet in length and 99 feet in width.

“These are the kinds of projects where you realize the impact your local’s work is having on the city and understand that the impact will be lasting for many years to come.”

- Laborers’ Local 731 Business Manager
JOSEPH D’AMATO
A FULL CENTURY AFTER INITIAL PROPOSAL, LINE EXTENSION EASES COMMUTES

Gov. Andrew Cuomo was among the first riders aboard the expanded Second Avenue Subway Line’s celebratory first ride, along with leaders of Local Unions 731 and 147 and others whose efforts supported, sustained and drove the project forward under Manhattan.

The newly opened section of the line extends two miles from 63rd Street to 96th street and adds three new stations. This marks the first major expansion of this commuter subway line in more than 50 years and represents a long-delayed improvement that was first proposed in 1919 but sidelined by the Great Depression and Second World War, among other events.

In 2007, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) restarted work that had begun in the 1970s but was halted by New York City’s fiscal crisis. In this recently completed Phase 1, the MTA engaged Arup. Parsons Brinckeroff for preliminary engineering and tunnel design, and Schiavone/Shea/ Skanska for construction.

The project’s recently completed first phase cost $4.5 billion, and the 1.5 mile second phase, to 125th Street, is projected to cost $6 billion. Phase 2 is currently in planning, with completion projected by 2029. Before the celebratory ride on the newly opened Phase 1 extension, Laborers’ Local Unions 731 and 147, representatives from the New York State Laborers’ Organizing Fund (NYSLOF), the MTA, and community leaders gathered with Governor Cuomo in a special preview for the grand opening of the extended system. They joined in honoring the efficiency and safety of the work of Laborers, architects, engineers, construction managers and tradespeople. The new line serves approximately 200,000 riders daily. In turn, this expansion reduces over-crowding on the Lexington Avenue Line by as much as 13 percent, or 23,500 fewer riders on an average weekday.
You Have A Job To Do This November 7th

Vote **NO** on The Constitutional Convention

**WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?**
The NYS Constitution guarantees your right to unite and fight for worksite justice and your hard earned prevailing wages.

**WHAT’S AT STAKE ON 11/7?**

1. **OUR PAYCHECKS**
The right to prevailing wages for your hard work would be targeted.

2. **OUR RIGHTS**
Longstanding labor standards, which LiUNA members and their families depend on, would be on the chopping block.

3. **OUR STRENGTH**
The right to unionize and bargain collectively would be jeopardized.

4. **OUR INDUSTRY**
So called “Right to Work” states have seen disastrous results as wages and benefits plummet.

5. **YOUR VOTE COUNTS**
Since this is an off-election, your vote matters more than ever.

6. **EVERYTHING**
A Constitutional Convention is a **SERIOUS** threat to our most basic union rights and our families’ way of life.

Text **CONCON** to (518) 304-5396 and Pledge to Vote **NO**
NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE? CUT OUT, FILL IN AND MAIL BY 10/6

To Complete This Form:

Must be completed. If you answer NO, do not complete this form.

Must be completed, however if you check NO, do not complete this form UNLESS you are a New York resident who will be 18 by the end of this year.

Give your home address.

Give your mailing address if it is different from your home address (post office box no., star route or rural route no., etc.)

The completion of this box is optional.

Identification Requirements:

* Identification means a verifiable New York State Driver’s License number or non-driver ID, or the last four digits of your Social Security number, as requested in Box 9 of the application.

* If you do not have either of these, and you are registering for the first time and are doing so by mail, you may provide a copy of a valid photo ID, a current utility bill, bank statement, government check or some other government documentation that shows your name and address. If you do not provide identification with this form, you will be asked for it the first time you vote.

☐ Yes, I need an application for an Absentee Ballot

☐ Yes, I would like to be an Election Day Worker

Please print or type in blue or black ink

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<th>1 Are you a U.S. citizen?</th>
<th>☐ Yes ☐ No</th>
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<td>2 I will be 18 years old on or before election day:</td>
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<td>9 Have You Voted Before?</td>
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Choose a Party – Check one box only

☐ DEMOCRATIC PARTY
☐ REPUBLICAN PARTY
☐ CONSERVATIVE PARTY
☐ WORKING FAMILIES PARTY
☐ INDEPENDENCE PARTY
☐ GREEN PARTY
☐ OTHER (write in) ______
☐ I DO NOT WISH TO ENROLL IN A PARTY

AFFIDAVIT: I swear or affirm that:

☐ I am a citizen of the United States.
☐ I will have lived in the county, city, or village for at least 30 days before the election.
☐ I meet all requirements to register to vote in New York State.
☐ This is my signature or mark on the line below.

☐ The above information is true. I understand that if it is not true I can be convicted and fined up to $5,000 and/or jailed for up to four years.

☐ Signature or mark

☐ Date

Please do not write in this space
NOT REGISTERED?  
CUT OUT, FILL IN AND MAIL BY 10/6.

FROM:

____________________________________

____________________________________

Did you remember to sign & date the form in ink?

Voter Registration
New York State Laborers
35-11 35th Avenue
Astoria, NY 11106
Su Voto Es Nuestra Voz!

Para Completar Este Formulario:

Debe estar completo. Si usted responde NO, no complete este formulario.

Debe estar completo; no obstante, si usted responde NO, no complete este formulario A MENOS QUE usted sea un residente de Nueva York que ha cumplido los 18 años de edad antes de finalizar este año.

Escriba el domicilio de su hogar.

Escriba su domicilio postal si difiere del de su hogar (No de casilla de correo. No de ruta, etc.)

Es opcional completar este casilla.

Debe estar completo. Si usted posee vigente licencia de conducir de Nueva York o número de identidad de no-conductor, debe proporcionar dicho número. Si no tiene vigente número expedido por el DMV (Departamento de Automóviles) del estado de Nueva York, debe proporcionar las últimas cuatro cifras de su número de Seguro Social. De lo contrario, debe proporcionar los últimos cuatro dígitos de su número de Seguro Social.

Si usted nunca ha votado antes, escriba “Ninguno.” Si no recuerda cuándo votó por última vez, coloque un signo de interrogación (¿). Si usted votó anteriormente utilizando otro nombre, escriba dicho nombre. Si no, escriba “Mismo.”

Para poder votar en la elección primaria de un partido, usted debe estar inscrito en uno de los 5 partidos constituidos en Nueva York. Marque sólo una casilla.

Esta solicitud debe estar firmada y fechada en tinta.

Requisitos De Identificación:

- Identificación significa un número verificable de Licencia de conducir de Nueva York, o los últimos cuatro dígitos de su número de Seguro Social, según se solicita en el Casilla 9 de esta solicitud.

- Si usted no posee ninguno de estos dos números, y se está inscribiendo por primera vez, por correo, puede proporcionar una copia de un documento válido con foto, una cuenta de servicio público, estado de cuenta bancario, cheque del gobierno o cualquier otra documentación gubernamental vigente, que contenga su nombre y domicilio. Si usted no proporciona identificación con este formulario, la misma se le solicitará la primera vez que vote.

- Si usted incluye una copia de cualquier tipo de identificación, asegúrese de pegarlo con cinta adhesiva a los bordes de este formulario.

Solicitud de Inscripción de Votante/Voter Registration Application

Sirvase completar con letras de imprenta en tinta azul o negra

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Elija un partido – Marque solo un recuadro

- PARTIDO DEMOCRATA
- PARTIDO REPUBLICANO
- PARTIDO CONSERVADOR
- PARTIDO DE LAS FAMILIAS TRABAJADORA
- PARTIDO DE LA INDEPENDENCIA
- PARTIDO VERDE
- OTRO (especifique)
- NO DESEO INSCRIBIRME EN UN

DECLARACION JURADA: Juro o afirmo que:

- Soy ciudadano de los Estados Unidos
- Habrá residido en el condado, ciudad o pueblo durante al menos 30 días con anterioridad a la elección
- Cumplió con todos los requisitos para inscribirse para votar en el Estado de Nueva York
- Mi firma o huella digital está en la línea que está a continuación
- La información precedente es verdadera. Entiendo que si no fuera verdadera, puedo ser condenado y multado con hasta $5,000 y/o encarcelado por un máximo de cuatro años.

Firma o huella digital

Por favor no escribir en este espacio

Fall 2017 13
El día de las elecciones, se le pedirá si el Estado de Nueva York debería redactar su acta constitutiva.

¿Por qué es esto tan importante?
La Constitución garantiza su derecho a un pago justo por el trabajo que realiza (también conocido como salario prevaleciente).

¿Qué sucede si se vuelve a redactar?
Grupos de intereses poderosos tratan de eliminar completamente los salarios actuales, que lo mantienen a usted y a su familia.

NUESTROS DERECHOS
Estándares laborales que se han establecido por muchos años, con los que cuentan nuestros miembros, pudieran ser drásticamente reducidos o incluso eliminados.

NUESTROS SALARIOS
Nuestro derecho a salarios prevalecientes (prevailing wage) estarían en riesgo.

TU VOTO CUENTA
Debido a que esta elección no es durante un año electoral, tu voto cuenta más que nunca.

NUESTRA FUERZA
El derecho de organizar y establecer sindicatos y a negociar colectivamente estarían en riesgo.

NUESTRA INDUSTRIA
El mal llamado derecho al trabajo (Right to Work) que ha sido establecido en otros estados y ha tenido resultados desastrosos y ha causado la caída vertiginosa de salarios y beneficios.

NUESTRA INDUSTRIA
El mal llamado derecho al trabajo (Right to Work) que ha sido establecido en otros estados y ha tenido resultados desastrosos y ha causado la caída vertiginosa de salarios y beneficios.

TODO LO ESTABLECIDO
La convención Constitucional es una amenaza a nuestros derechos más básicos como trabajadores, miembros de unión y sería un ataque contra el estilo de vida de nuestras familias.

Voter Registration
New York State Laborers
35-11 35th Avenue
Astoria, NY 11106
NEW YORKERS VOTED “NO” TO HOLD A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION during the last referendum in 1997. This question is added to the ballot every 20 years. The last time a constitutional convention took place was almost 50 years ago in 1967, and voters thankfully rejected every proposed amendment.

THE HISTORY

THE PROCESS

Approval of a State Constitutional Convention is a Catastrophic Threat to Essential Labor Rights!

**STEP 1: Ballot Question**

NOVEMBER 7, 2017

“SHALL THERE BE A CONVENTION TO REVISE THE CONSTITUTION AND AMEND THE SAME?”

YES or NO

PROCESS ENDS

**STEP 2: Convention**

NOVEMBER 2018

1. Voters in each Senate District will elect 3 Delegates, making a total of 189. Voters will also elect 15 at-large Delegates.

2. 204 Statewide Delegates will convene at the NYS Capitol in April 2019.

3. Any proposed Constitution or Amendment adopted will be presented to a vote of the people in November 2019:

YES or NO

PROCESS ENDS

**STEP 3: Ratification**

JANUARY 2020

Any approved Constitution or Amendment will go into effect on January 1, 2020.

*Source: New York State Constitution Article XIX

LEARN MORE AT www.noconvention.org
Attendees of the conference included LIUNA General Secretary–Treasurer and New England Regional Manager Armand E. Sabitoni; LIUNA Vice President and New England Assistant Regional Manager Vincent R. Masino; International Representatives Donato A. Bianco, Jr. and Christopher A. Sabitoni.

The first day highlighted speakers including General Secretary–Treasurer/New England Regional Manager Sabitoni, as well as NYS Senator Neil Breslin, NYS Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli, and MTA Special Advisor for Agency Operations & Initiatives John J. McCarthy.

That evening, the NYS Laborers held a legislative reception, which was well attended by legislators from around the state and labor representatives. At one point, New York Senator Diane Savino addressed the crowd about the importance of voting NO to a state Constitutional Convention.

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The following day, members from the various locals organized and met with their representatives to further the Laborers’ political agenda.

The New York State Laborers’ PAC, aided by the New York State Laborers’ Organizing Fund, united the voices of all members at the State Capitol in Albany during the annual Legislative Conference.

**THE CONFERENCE BROUGHT A TREMENDOUS TURNOUT OF BUSINESS MANAGERS, ORGANIZERS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS.**

**KEY TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:**

**DEFINITION OF PUBLIC WORKS**

Support for Assembly Bill A.5498, sponsored by Assembly Member Bronson.

Support for Senate Bill S.2975, sponsored by Senator Murphy, which defines “public works” to include the prevailing wage law.

**WORKER SAFETY**

Support Assembly Bill A02966, sponsored by Assembly Member Moya, which punishes employers for unsafe conditions on their job sites, resulting in worker injury or death.

Support Assembly Bill A06738, sponsored by Assembly Member Barnwell, which relates to creating mandatory training and qualifications of workers in the construction and demolition of buildings.

**WATER INFRASTRUCTURE**

Support increased fund allocations to address water quality projects throughout New York State. Instances like in Flint, Michigan, where lead contaminated the city’s drinking water supply, could be prevented with the proper investment and support.
PROJECT TRACKING INFORMATION NOW AVAILABLE TO ALL MEMBERS

Laborers can now conduct specific market research and track projects with the national rollout of Market Expansion Project (MEP) training in the use of this hyper-capable application for desktop, laptop and mobile devices.

MEP provides Laborers a tool to effectively and easily find projects and jobs and increase market share. Provided by Dodge Data & Analytics, the new application also includes the Project Labor Agreement Reference Guide, LECET Business Advantage materials and our Business News Service.

To introduce the new program, New York State LECET, Greater NYC LECET, and New York State Organizing Funds hosted onsite trainings, led by Katey Bailey, LECET Director of Operations and Computer Services Manager.

The Upstate New York Laborers’ District Council, Eastern New York Laborers’ District Council and New York City Local Unions hosted trainings. For example, Local Unions 1010 and 731 training centers hosted 35 trainees from the City and Long Island over two days.

“As technology and the markets where we work continue to change across New York State, our members will continue to learn and use the new tools available to us,” said Frank Marchese, Executive Director of the NYS LECET Fund, who attended the training.

Specifically, the new program provides LIUNA affiliates access to a lead management system for the construction industry. It allows users to manage project information, plans, specification documents and other data.

To facilitate access, the MEP program has recently gone mobile with the MEP Mobile App (iOS only); an exclusive program for Laborers.

SAFETY AWARENESS THROUGH ART

CITY-WIDE SAFETY WEEK FEATURES TALENT FROM LOCAL 731

The GCA held a city-wide Safety Week and focused on the theme “Ladders Last.” Ladder citations were one of the top ten most frequently cited violations by OSHA in 2015. As part of Safety Week, Sanska Koch held a safety poster competition for children of our workers. Two of the winners were children of Local 731 members.
BUSINESS MANAGER PROFILE:
ANTHONY M. FRESINA - LOCAL UNION 190

For Local Union 190 Business Manager Anthony M. Fresina, a family-deep tradition and strong home-town roots are only the beginning.

Born and raised in Albany, where he still lives with his two children, Anthony has built his career on extensive professional training that adds insight and knowledge to the experiences of his varied work in the field.

Anthony worked summers as a Laborer for Callanan Industries, a leading regional supplier and contractor for aggregates, asphalt paving and ready mix concrete products to state, federal, municipal, commercial, and private customers. After graduating from Christian Brothers Academy in Albany in 1989, Anthony joined Laborers’ Local Union 190. In 1994, he attended the Laborers’ International Union of North America leadership courses, then graduated from the Harvard Trade Union Program in 1995. He attended the Industrial Labor Relations School at Cornell University, graduating in 2005. He became a Field Representative for Laborers’ Local Union 190 in September 1995 and served as Vice President on the Executive Board.

February 2002, after many years of hands-on experience in the field, the Executive Board of Laborers’ Local Union 190 appointed Anthony business manager, and he was later elected to the post in May 2004. Local Union 190 is a Building and Heavy Highway chartered local of 850 members serving Albany, Rensselaer, Washington, Greene and northern Columbia counties.

Guided by the value of his own in-depth training, Anthony has emphasized member training, expanding it dramatically to enhance skills, efficiency and safety. Training also emphasizes compliance with ever-changing Federal and State regulations. He has consistently encouraged meeting attendance and cooperation within and among trades.

In fact, cooperation was one of the most satisfying aspects of his own favorite project as a Laborer: working on the Southeast Pipeline. On this vital and ambitious project, Anthony enjoyed and learned from meeting Laborers from other areas, workers in other trades and at other levels of responsibility in our field.

In his five terms as business manager, Anthony has seen technology change dramatically. Laborers’ Local Union 190 now uses LIUNA’s 7 Tools to improve activism through communication techniques. These tools – Automated Phone Technology, Media Outreach, Unity Through Branding, Targeted Publications, Websites and Social Media, the LIUNA Action Network, and Text Messaging – keep members more informed with important issues such as training, worksite safety and political issues.

Anthony M. Fresina’s background, experience, training and leadership have brought growing responsibilities. The son of Samuel Fresina of the Eastern New York State Laborers’ District Council, Anthony is a co-chairman of Local Union 190’s Pension and Welfare Funds as well as a Delegate and Officer of the Eastern New York Laborers District Council. He is also a Trustee on the New York State Laborers Health and Safety Fund.

FILL IN FIVE

Tri-Fund Magazine asked Anthony Fresina to answer five questions about himself:

What was your first job?
I washed police cars for the City of Albany.

What would your union brothers and sisters be surprised to learn about you?
I like to cook fine Italian cuisine.

What was the last movie you saw?
Despicable Me 3 with my kids.

What’s your favorite song on the radio?
“My Way” by Elvis Presley.

What is your favorite saying or quote?
“The first method for establishing the intelligence of a ruler is to look at the men he has around him.” - Machiavelli.
As this issue of the Tri-Fund Magazine illustrates, construction is on the rise across New York state. In New York City, projects range from subways and bridges to office and residential buildings. Meanwhile, many transportation and other building projects are humming throughout the state, including a core project in Albany that adds much-needed convention and meeting space in our capital city.

However, we also recognize that this increased construction activity comes with a potential downside. As construction expands, construction safety may suffer. Many factors explain the current uptick in safety concerns. New and inexperienced workers make up a growing percentage of the construction workforce. Even experienced workers may be doing unfamiliar types of work or have to work longer hours to get projects done on time. Safety supervision may be stretched too thin or be inexperienced in new job categories.

Recent events in New York City show the dangers of increased construction activity. In the past 2 years, more than 30 construction workers have died, and nearly 90 percent worked on non-union sites. While each fatality had different contributing factors, there are common threads. Many of those workers did not have experience in doing the specific type of work they were assigned. Most had little if any safety training. Safety supervision was often careless. Glaring safety deficiencies were overlooked.

The NYC Building and Construction Trades and the Laborers Union have done much to publicize these issues and insist that steps be taken to stop unnecessary fatalities and injuries. Our rally at City Hall mobilized more than 25,000 construction workers demanding immediate action. Legislation has been introduced to require more safety training for all construction workers and other actions aimed at improving worker safety. We have also reached out to the families of these often poorly-paid immigrant workers whose deaths have left their families in especially difficult circumstances.

We are proud that our members do have safety training, starting in our apprenticeship programs and continuously maintained after that. We strongly reinforce that training by offering courses every year by our training funds while our Health and Safety Funds provide additional support and energy in our comprehensive training effort. We consistently demand that our contractors provide safe work sites.

However, we ourselves must remember that safety is a priority every day at the job site. We must be constantly vigilant and work to keep ourselves and our fellow workers safe and healthy so that they and their families can enjoy the benefits of this increased and valuable work.

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Vincent R. Masino
Vice President and New England Assistant Regional Manager
Laborers’ International Union of North America

In the past 2 years, more than 30 construction workers have died, and nearly 90 percent worked on non-union sites.
OUR HARD- EARNED BENEFITS, WON OVER DECADES, COULD BE TAKEN AWAY BY POLITICAL INSIDERS IF A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION IS HELD.

TOGETHER WE CAN PROTECT OUR RIGHTS BY PLEDGING TO VOTE “NO” ON A NEW YORK STATE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

A CONVENTION WILL PUT POWER IN THE HANDS OF A SELECT FEW WHO DO NOT HAVE YOUR INTERESTS AT HEART.

THE POWER IS IN YOUR HANDS WITH 1 TEXT:

LEARN MORE: www.noconvention.org