



District 142

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Weekly Update



The Update Message from the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers
representing Flight Attendants in the 2339 Local Lodges

Friday, June 29, 2007

GOP Senators Filibuster Employee Free Choice Act — A majority of Senators voted in favor of the [Employee Free Choice Act](#) (EFCA) Tuesday, June 26, 2007, but the vote was nine votes short of the 60-vote requirement to break a filibuster of the bill by a handful of obstructionist Senators. In a normal vote, the 51-48 margin would pass the bill. But under Senate rules, 60 Senators must vote for “cloture” to end debate if a few Senators elect to “filibuster,” or keep debate open on the bill. EFCA has gotten farther than ever under the Democratic majority in Congress. The House passed its version and there were enough votes in the Senate for passage if there were no filibuster. [The Employee Free Choice Act](#) (S.1041) would have leveled the playing field in the workplace by allowing workers to decide to join a union without employer interference and require arbitration if a timely agreement is not reached on a first contract. The AFL-CIO and its affiliates mounted an intense grassroots campaign that generated nationwide rallies, 50,000 telephone calls, 156,000 faxes and 220,000 postcards to the Senate in support of EFCA. “In (the) 2006 (election), the middle class spoke up. They understand they have not shared in the wealth that’s been produced,” said Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH). “It’s clear the majority of the American people want this legislation. A majority of the House wants it. A majority of the Senate wants it. And we will keep coming back year after year.”

Continental Flight Attendants are reminded that transfer requests on-file will be removed July 1st, 2007, in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement. Section 12.B.4, Base Transfers, states, “Transfer requests remain on file until granted, replaced or withdrawn, rescinded by the Company, or until July 1st, whichever comes first. (All requests will automatically expire on July 1st each year. Flight Attendants who continue to desire to transfer after July 1st must therefore resubmit such requests.)” The Company offers additional information regarding the transfer request expiration in Inflight Bulletin # 07-34, stating “Those of you who currently have transfers on file who are still interested in transferring, may either submit a new request after July 1st (and prior to the July 5th deadline), or may indicate your wish for your request to remain on file after the July 1st expiration date by checking the box supplied for this purpose on the transfer page of the Inflight Forms System. (This box was made available for your use on June 1). Requests to transfer for the August bid month must be on file by 1000 hours local time on July 5th.” **Continental Micronesia Flight Attendants** also have this provision in their agreement, Section 17.K. If you have any further questions about this process contact your Base or Inflight Administration Department or your local IAM Union Representatives.

Jumpseat vs. Assigned Seat While Deadheading — Summer traffic loads are expected to be very heavy this season. Please remember that your contract provides while deadheading, you are to be given an assigned seat. If you are asked to take a jumpseat while deadheading, please politely deny the request and exercise your contractual rights by asking for your assigned seat. For further information regarding deadhead travel, please refer to section 3.10.T. of your IAM/CAL agreement.

National Labor College Honors IAM

Graduates — Twenty IAM members recently earned Bachelor of Arts degrees and one received a Master's degree through the AFL-CIO's [National Labor College](#) (NLC) in Silver Spring, MD. Sixteen IAM graduates were on hand at the College's graduation ceremony that honored more than 100 union members. "We're proud of these IAM graduates. They've worked hard to earn their degrees," said IAM Headquarters GVP Rich Michalski, who



represented the IAM at the ceremony along with Winpisinger Director Chris Wagoner and Educational Representative Charlie Micallef. "The National Labor College is a great opportunity for union members to finish their college education. And with the additional benefits provided by our Winpisinger Center, IAM members have greater flexibility when it comes to getting a degree," said Michalski. The NLC is the nation's only union-based college. Union members can earn their college degree in a program that balances the needs between work, family and study by combining online course work and periods of on-campus study at the college. IAM members have an added advantage because the NLC coordinates their program with the IAM's [William W. Winpisinger Education and Technology Center](#), allowing IAM students to use the Center to complete part of their course work. Also, many of the Winpisinger Center programs are now accredited and can be used for college-degree programs. For information about earning a college degree through the National Labor College, contact Charlie Micallef at 301-373-3300.

We would like to encourage all members to attend your Local Lodge business meeting. Each base must have a quorum to conduct business. The following is a schedule for upcoming meetings:

Newark: Tuesday, July 10th, 3:00 p.m. at the Doubletree Airport Hotel.

Cleveland: Thursday, July 12th, 1:00 p.m. at 669 North Rocky River Drive.

Houston: Tuesday, July 17th, 1:00 p.m. at 15710 JFK Blvd.

Guam: Wednesday, July 18th, 4:00 p.m. at the Airport Conference Room.