# **UNITEHERE! Midwest Joint Board Local 24/57**

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### POLITICAL UPDATE

The US House of Representatives and US Senate have passed the CoronaVirus Stimulus Package and have sent the bill to the President's desk for signature, which he is expected to sign. Any individual who makes less than \$75,000, per their 2018 tax filing, will get \$1,200 per qualified adult. Each married couple that makes below \$150,000 will get a total of \$2,400 per couple and \$500 per qualified child up to 3 children. That means a family of 4 would get \$3,400 and a family of 5 that makes less than \$150,000 would get \$3,900. This is a one time payment to be re-evaluated at a later date. There is no timeline currently on when the money would be sent to individuals. This package also provides anyone currently on unemployment to get an extra \$600 per week on top of their unemployment benefits for the next 4 months. However, this bill does nothing to provide health care to workers who are no longer receiving healthcare from employers that have laid them off. That means thousands and soon millions of workers will be without health insurance in a month.

A new federal Paid Sick Leave law will be going into effect on April 1st. Here is a link to the US Department of Labor's website with an outline on who will qualify for the new Sick Leave allowances while this crisis continues: https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/ files/WHD/posters/FFCRA\_Poster\_WH1422\_ Non-Federal.pdf

This new law could impact many members and provide them with additional paid time off if they, their family, or a friend, if their child's school or day care has been closed.



Midwest Joint Board members are currently working with allies, other unions, and legislators to work to make sure that as part of the Governor's executive order those on the front lines who have been designated by employers as "critical workers"

are covered by the Worker's Compensation laws. This would add additional protections to members who have been designated by their employers as "critical workers" and could potentially be exposed to the Corona Virus.

- Midwest Joint Board members are in conversations with the Ohio AFL-CIO Legislative team about working to push similar policy changes through to the Governor of Ohio to make sure workers on the front lines at the request of the employer have additional protections.
- Midwest Joint Board members are carefully watching for the potential that hotels, arenas, conventions centers, and universities are "commandeered" by governments to provide additional capacity for hospitals. If you hear about this happening at any of your properties please immediately contact your union steward.

