Hillary Clinton’s Promise to AFSCME

Secretary Hillary Clinton made a spirited case for public service workers to support her candidacy for President of the United States, contrasting her decades-long support for working families with Donald Trump’s callous attempts to defraud them.

“AFSCME, you have my back, and as President I’ll have yours,” Secretary Clinton said. “When I’m President, working people will always have a seat at the table and a champion in the White House.”

“You pioneered the basic bargain that made our country great,” she continued. “That means working hard and playing by the rules should mean being able to earn a living wage and having a fair shot at the American Dream.”

“I’m proud to be in the trenches fighting alongside you to raise wages and keep the ‘public’ in ‘public service,’” Clinton said. And she urged delegates to support her by talking to our friends and neighbors, knocking on doors and registering people to vote.

Secretary Clinton promised to support us in our fights against governors like Bruce Rauner and Scott Walker, and she pledged to end private prisons that profit off our criminal justice system.

She also compared her record to that of Donald Trump, the millionaire who has called for a national right-to-work law and has said Americans need to be paid less.

James Rhodes, president of Local 1585 (Michigan Council 25), said Secretary Clinton’s speech was “very inspirational.” He was proud that she called us “one team, not a red team, not a blue team, not a Democrat team, not a Republican team. It’s one team for America.”

Laura Morrison, of Local 549 (New Jersey Council 52), committed to vote for Secretary Clinton. “I’m for Hillary 100 percent. I feel that she is for working people.”

Secretary-Treasurer Reyes: “It Takes a Team!”

AFSCME Sec.-Treas. Laura Reyes told delegates Tuesday in her keynote speech: “You are writing the next chapter in AFSCME’s long, proud history.”

That history goes back more than 80 years, to Wisconsin, where working people came together “and stood up to a system that unfairly fired public service workers just because of their personal politics.”

“We started out as an idea,” said Reyes, “a spark...that grew and spread. And as it spread, our union grew in size and shaped the events that made us a better nation. We marched for equal pay for women, and stood up for workers’ rights, LGBTQ rights, immigration and voting rights.”

Reyes said the next generation is ready to continue that legacy. “Because growing this union, winning for working people, and making America happen takes a team that has each other’s backs,” Reyes said. “We are that team!”

Reyes told cheering delegates that it takes a team to make sure every worker earns fair pay, sick leave and overtime; we can afford retirement; and every parent can afford to feed their children. “The sisters and brothers in this room are that team!” she said. “If we rise above the challenges, we will keep winning!”

Resolutions

Delegates on Tuesday passed six resolutions, including:

Infrastructure (4); Senate Must End Obstruction and Vote on Judicial Nominees (56); Fiscal Relief, Debt Restructuring and Puerto Rico Workers’ Pensions and Labor Rights Protection (13); The Role of Unions in Building the Middle Class (1); Building Our Union by Sharing Stories of How AFSCME Members Never Quit (54), Standing in Solidarity with AFSCME Members in Illinois (38)
Shuttle Service Schedule

Shuttles will pick up and drop off at the Blue Lot Door #9 from 6 – 10 a.m., with limited service from the Convention Center from 2 – 5 p.m. Rally buses will leave from North Hall C1, and will return to Convention Center to pick up all attending the rally. After the rally, buses will return to all hotels.

Secretary-Treasurer and IVP Nominations

Convention delegates on Tuesday nominated candidates for International secretary-treasurer and International vice presidents.

Convention delegates nominated, in alphabetical order, John Frazier, Local 1488 (Washington Council 28) and current Sec.-Treas. Laura Reyes, Local 3930 (California, United Domestic Workers). The elections will occur Thursday 7 – 10 a.m. in Central Hall C2 of the Las Vegas Convention Center. If a run-off is required for any election, it will be conducted on Friday, July 22, from 7 – 9:30 a.m. in Central Hall C2.

Shuttle service on Thursday will begin at 6 a.m. for elections. If there is a runoff election, shuttles to the Las Vegas Convention Center will begin at 6 a.m. on Friday.

Let’s Dump Trump

Donald Trump claims he’s pro-union and pro-working families. Then why won’t he come to the bargaining table with the workers of Trump International Hotel? At the end of today’s session, we’re marching to support our sisters and brothers of Culinary Workers Union Local 226 and Bartenders Local 165 who voted to unionize and have been certified by the NLRB.

T-shirts will be available, starting at 7 a.m., at the registration area for those attending the rally. Water, Powerade and sunscreen will be provided. Buses will depart from the C1 exit when the general session ends. There’s an approximate 11-minute walk from the buses to the rally site, so be sure to dress wisely for sun and heat. Temperatures are expected to reach 109 degrees.

Wear a hat with a brim and cool, breathable fabrics like linen and cotton. Stop at the Wellness Booth for more health tips. All buses will return to all hotels at the end of the rally so get on any bus. Be well! Stay strong!

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