

New England Laborers'

ELECTION EDITION



2014

LABORERS VOTE
LABORERS WIN!

VERMONT
Voter Information

*“The American Labor Movement
has consistently demonstrated its
devotion to the public interest.
It is, and has been, good for all
America.”*

~ John F. Kennedy





Armand E. Sabitoni

General Secretary-Treasurer &
New England Regional Manager
Laborers' International Union of North America



When our Founding Fathers established the Constitution, they envisioned a government based on sacrifice and dedication to our American ideals. Our Republic was formed for the purpose of establishing justice, insuring domestic tranquility, providing for our common defense, promoting the general welfare and to secure the blessings of liberty for all Americans. They established the Congress to create laws that would promote the welfare and in turn secure the personal freedom of all Americans. They specifically noted that “our posterity” or future generations should benefit from the establishment of our newly formed government.

What would they think today when Congress refuses to act and fails to provide solutions for a variety of crisis situations during a period of great suffering for the American people? The “Great Recession” has cost many Americans their livelihood, their homes and the future they envisioned for their children.

Everyone, economists, business owners, educators, our union brothers and sisters agree that our Congress should provide for the well-being of our citizens by returning our hard earned tax dollars in the form of funding for the rehabilitation of our crumbling schools, roads, bridges and other vital infrastructure. Infrastructure development is essential to every modern society and the job opportunities it creates will move our economy forward.

Instead we have paralysis in Washington. Simply stated, there are some politicians that put personal political gain before the people. The hard working Democrats, Republicans and Independents in Congress who truly care about the people and want solutions are frustrated and demoralized. I, for one, am

outraged by the blatantly offensive behavior of elected leaders who refuse to work cooperatively to solve these problems.

Never before has there been such income inequality in our country, such eagerness to strip working men and women of their rights, pensions and standard of living. As watchdogs for all working men and women, unions are also under attack for standing up and demanding action.

The candidates that you will see in this publication have been interviewed and vetted by your District Council Legislative Committees for their commitment to help working people. Their voting records on issues important to working families have been scrutinized. The Democrat, Republican or Independent candidates we endorse must be focused on creating family sustaining jobs, benefits including healthcare, a public education for every child, and a pension to live on after a lifetime of work.

These are candidates that your District Council chose for your consideration as you exercise your all-important right to vote. Frustration can only be eased by action. Act on behalf of the well being of union families. Vote on November 4th!

Fraternally Yours,

Armand E. Sabitoni
General Secretary-Treasurer and
New England Regional Manager
Laborers' International Union of North America

Our Endorsed Vermont Candidates

CONGRESSMAN PETER WELCH

Candidate for U.S. House of Representatives



Congressman Peter Welch has been a champion for working Vermonters throughout his distinguished career as a state legislator and member of Congress. Since his election to Congress in 2006, he has been widely recognized in Washington as a skillful and effective legislator.

Welch's solid record of accomplishment reflects his strong commitment to bringing people together to find real solutions to the difficult challenges facing Vermont and the nation. In a climate of gridlock and partisanship, he has worked across the aisle in Congress to create jobs, to make college and health care more affordable, to balance the budget fairly, to increase energy efficiency, to

end the wars in the Middle East, and to take care of our veterans.

Congressman Welch supports infrastructure investments that will create good jobs by rebuilding America's roads, bridges, water and sewer systems, schools and airports, and by expanding broadband services to all Vermonters. He successfully fought to increase student financial aid and stop the doubling of student loan interest rates; is the nationally recognized champion in Congress of energy efficiency investments that create good manufacturing jobs, cut energy bills, and improve the environment; and supports federal investments to create a 21st century green energy economy.

GOVERNOR PETER SHUMLIN

Candidate for the Office of Governor



Governor Peter Shumlin is a small business owner, public servant and father of two from Putney, Vermont. A committed entrepreneur, Governor Shumlin was the longtime co-director, along with his brother, of Putney Student Travel and National Geographic Student Expeditions, a company that sends students on educational programs and service projects across the globe. He is also a partner in several real estate companies that provide housing and commercial space in southeast Vermont.

His career in public service began almost 30 years ago, when at the age of 24, he was elected to serve on the town's select board. In 1990, Gov. Madeleine Kunin appointed Shumlin to fill an empty seat in the Vermont House of Representatives, where he

served for three years. He then served Windham County for eight terms in the Vermont Senate and was elected by his colleagues to lead the Senate as president pro-tempore for the majority of that time.

As governor, he is determined to get tough things done. Since his inauguration, he has been working hard to create jobs for those who need them and raise incomes for those who have jobs, control skyrocketing health care costs, expand broadband and cell service to every corner of the state, reduce recidivism, invest in quality education opportunities, and rebuild our roads and bridges. Taken together, these and other key goals represent an ambitious agenda to create a brighter economic future for Vermonters.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR PHIL SCOTT

Candidate for Lieutenant Governor



Lieutenant Governor Phil Scott believes that a stronger economy means more people working in good paying jobs where incomes are rising faster than the cost of living in Vermont. A stronger economy with more and better paying jobs means reduced dependence on government, less drug abuse, and increased revenue for our highest priorities like health care, education and protecting the most vulnerable Vermonters.

Growing the economy, while working to contain rising costs like health care and property taxes, which overpower household budgets, are the best strategies for balancing the state

budget and increasing the value of a day's pay for our working families.

Lieutenant Governor Phil Scott continues to be a leading advocate for existing employers and works with businesses both large and small that are considering locating in Vermont. He continues to facilitate meetings and make connections with business leaders to encourage them to open up shop in our state. But, as we continue to see business close their doors and leave our borders, it's clear there is much more Vermont must do to reduce the barriers to job creation and economic growth.

TREASURER BETH PEARCE

Candidate for State Treasurer



Beth Pearce began her work as Vermont's Deputy Treasurer in 2003, and has been an active and effective part of the department since. In 2011, when Jeb Spaulding assumed the role of Secretary of Administration, a new State Treasurer was needed. Governor Peter Shumlin, convinced that "the state of Vermont would benefit by having someone of her caliber in office," appointed Pearce.

Treasurer Pearce has more than 30 years of experience in government

finance at both the state and local levels. Prior to her work in Vermont, she served as Deputy Treasurer for Cash Management at the Massachusetts State Treasurer's Office; Deputy Comptroller for the Town of Greenburgh, New York; and Accounting Manager and Financial Operations Manager for the Town of West Hartford, Connecticut. As a result of her dedication to the art of accounting, Pearce's financial reports have received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

Our Endorsed Vermont Candidates *Continued...*

SECRETARY OF STATE JIM CONDOS

Candidate for Secretary of State



Jim Condos has served as Vermont's Secretary of State for the past 4 years. He has an outstanding record of achievement from more than 25 years of elected public service. Prior to becoming Secretary of State, he served on the South Burlington City Council for 18 years and as a Vermont State Senator from Chittenden County for 8 years.

The Secretary of State's office plays an important role in our lives. It is tasked with protecting and promoting our democratic rights and privileges. During his term as Secretary of State and in his prior elect-

ed positions, Condos demonstrated his commitment to all Vermonters, focusing on issues important to Vermont's working families including affordable housing, transportation and economic development, health care reform, education and the protection of children, support for Vermont's public services and public employees, and protection of civil and employment rights.

Condos understands that small business and entrepreneurship are the driving forces in making Vermont an incredible place to live, work, and raise a family.

AUDITOR DOUG HOFFER

Candidate for Auditor of Accounts



As the author of the Job Gap Study (a series of reports from 1997 to 2010), Doug Hoffer provided policy guidance for Legislators dealing with economic development and related tax policies, the livable wage, and the benefits of greater in-state purchasing.

Hoffer pledged more transparency and more accountability. Today, the State Auditor's website has more details about the budget, the contract with KPMG, as well as an improved strategic plan and performance re-

port. Also, fear of retaliation has prevented many state employees from reporting waste, fraud, and abuse in state government. In order to encourage whistleblowers to come forward, Hoffer decided to create a safe place for them and persuaded the legislature to support a new law protecting their identities.

Hoffer believes that tracking the money raised and spent by state government is important but it is just the beginning of the Auditor's job, not the end.



Bill Sorrell has earned a reputation as one of Vermont's most dedicated and effective public servants. When you look at Sorrell's record, it's no wonder Vermonters have decided — seven times — to send him back to Montpelier to keep up the fight for Vermont.

He believes the Office of Attorney General is among the most important elected positions in Vermont or any state. With a responsibility to seek justice for all, integrity, energy and competence of the Attorney

General are key to the security of our citizens and their confidence in the fairness of the enforcement of our laws.

The Attorney General wears two hats: to represent the interests of the government in a wide range of court proceedings and to represent the general welfare of all the people. When these two interests are in conflict, the Attorney General must strive to see that both interests are protected and well-represented.

VOTE NOVEMBER 4TH

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR VERMONT VOTERS

- *Call your town or city clerk where you live to find out where your polling place is in your community.*
- *All polls open between 5 a.m. and 10 a.m., depending on the town. All polling places close at 7 p.m. You should contact your town clerk to find out when your polling place opens.*
- *In Vermont, if you registered to vote when you renewed your driver's license, or as part of a voter registration drive, you will not be required to show ID. Only first time voters who have registered by mail have to show ID in order to vote.*
- *Last Day to Register to vote for General Election is October 29, 2014.*
- *For more VT voter info, go to:*

www.sec.state.vt.us/elections/voters.aspx

New England Laborers'
ELECTION EDITION

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Labor-Management
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Providence, RI 02903-2990

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VOTE NOVEMBER 4TH

**YOUR
VOTE
IS OUR
VOICE**