Gov. Tom Wolf’s 2020-21 Budget

BRINGS GOOD NEWS FOR UFCW 1776KS MEMBERS

I am pleased to report that Governor Tom Wolf’s 2020-21 Budget proposal, introduced earlier this month, re-affirms our Local’s strong working partnership with the Governor and our shared commitment to protect good jobs with strong wages for our members.

The $35 billion budget includes an estimated $750 million in revenue from the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board’s Wine and Spirits Shops. This revenue, obviously, would not be possible without the hard work of our 3,500 PLCB members who are members of UFCW Local 1776 Keystone State. We have led the fight in Harrisburg against the privateers who want to take over the PLCB and put our 3,500 members on the unemployment line. We know that the Governor is relying on this revenue and that reflects his commitment to ensure that our members jobs remains intact.

Beyond additional investments like public education and other state programs, the Governor’s proposal includes good news for all working families, including our 33,000 members in PA.

THOSE KEY INITIATIVES INCLUDE:

- **Raising the state’s minimum wage from $7.25 to $15 per hour.**
  We support this proposal because we know that raising the wage will lift thousands of families across PA. We know that a higher minimum wage can help drive up wages for workers who are already earning between $12 and $15 an hour.

- **Ending discrimination of LGBTQ workers.**
  In Pennsylvania, state law does not protect LGBTQ workers from being fired due to discriminatory workplace practices. At UFCW 1776KS, we strongly advocate through collective bargaining to protect LGBTQ workers. Our state law needs to be updated to protect all workers from discrimination.

- **UFCW has the youngest membership, on average, among large labor unions in the country.**
  That is why we were pleased to see the launch of the $204 million Nellie Bly Scholarship program for PA State System of Higher Education students who meet certain requirements. This program is a great step forward in making college more affordable for working families. I encourage members to visit CLICK HERE to read more about the program.

Thank you, again, for your continued support.

Wendell W Youn IV
President,
UFCW Local 1776 Keystone State
UFCW has developed its own Free College Benefit for members. 
Please visit CLICK HERE for more information about that program.

Please note that there is an Upcoming Spring Start Date of March 16, 2020 and you will need your Union Number.

We will continue to work with the Wolf administration as well as both Republican and Democrat lawmakers to protect our 33,000 members and their families. We remain committed to fighting for fair wages, good benefits and safe workplaces.