

## ***Recent Elections Benefit Working Families in West Virginia***

**F**rom a historic decision in 2005, where the SEIU District 1199 Executive Board dedicated itself to leadership development, to today, is little more than a year's time. In that short time, SEIU District 1199 has proved itself a formidable force for workers and worker-friendly candidates.

No where is this more evident than in West Virginia. On November 7, Election Day, the victories seemed endless:

√ Democrats retained control of the West Virginia Legislature;

√ 8 out of 10 SEIU District 1199 endorsed candidates\* in a \$50,000 campaign won election or re-election;

√ Delegate Rick Thompson was re-elected to another term in the 17th District. This will be his fourth term in the state legislature;

√ U.S. Senator Robert Byrd, who holds the distinction of having held more leadership positions in the U.S. Senate than any other Senator of any party in Senate history, retained his seat in the U.S. Senate;

√ U.S. Congressman Alan B. Mollohan, who won 64 percent of the vote, was re-elected to a 13th congressional term in the U.S. House of Representatives; and

√ U.S. Congressman Nick Joe Rahall, who voted for SEIU goals 67 percent of the time, was also re-elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

SEIU goals include protecting Social Security and Medicare, ensuring affordable, high-quality health care and protecting workers' freedom to join a union. Working-class West Virginians can finally expect dialogue on issues that adversely impact workers.

\* SEIU District 1199 endorsed candidates for the \$50,000 campaign are as follows:

*Orphy Klempa (D-Wheeling), 3rd District,*

*Tal Hutchins (D-Wheeling), 3rd District*

*Dale Stephens (D-Huntington), 16th District*

*Doug Reynolds (D-Huntington), 16th District*

*Melvin Kessler (D-Beckley), 27th District*

*Alex Shook (D-Morgantown), 44th District*

*Barbara Fleischauer (D-Morgantown), 44th District*

*Charlene Marshall (D-Morgantown), 44th District*



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### **HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

SEIU District 1199 extends a hearty, happy holidays to members, staff and friends. In commemoration of the holiday season, the SEIU District 1199 Columbus office will be closed from December 25 through Monday, January 1, 2007. The office will reopen on Tuesday, January 2, 2007.

For more information, please call the SEIU District 1199 office at 1.800.227.1199.