
AFSCME Polling Center

ASEA Members Strike Authorization Survey

April 26 – 29, 2004

CALLER: Speak only to the union member named above – NO Spouses.

Hello, my name is _____ and I am calling from the ASEA (Alaska State Employees Association) with a very short opinion survey. (I am not selling anything and I will not ask you for money.)

First, our records indicate that you currently work for the State and are a GGU member. Is that correct?

Q1

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|
| 1) Yes | 99% |
| 2) No longer a state employee | 0% |
| 3) Never was a state employee | 0% |
| 4) Yes, employed by state but not | 0% |
| 5) [DO NOT OFFER] Declined to state | 0% |
| | 100% |

Our records also indicate that you are a Class ___ member. Is that information correct?

[CALLER – ENTER THE CLASS THEY REPORT]

Q2

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| 1 Class 1 | 15% |
| 2 Class 2 | 1% |
| 3 Class 3 | 34% |
| 4 [DO NOT READ] Don't know what class | 50% |
| 5 [DO NOT READ] Declined to state | 0% |

As you may know ASEA has been bargaining for a new union contract since October 2003. Since then we have met with State negotiators for 11 sessions totaling 30 days. On March 12 we declared an impasse because the State's proposals on many issues are simply not fair to ASEA.

For the next few questions I'm going to describe some of the State's proposals for your next union contract. After I read each one I will ask if you believe the State's offer is Fair or Unfair.

First, the State proposes to freeze merit pay and offer no COLA (Cost Of Living Adjustment) in the first year of the new contract. In years two and three the merit freeze would be lifted and there would be a 2% COLA each year. This amounts to a total wage increase of 4% over the 3-year life of the contract.

Q3 Do you think the State's wage proposal is Fair or Unfair?

1 Fair	19%
2 Unfair	72%
3 [DO NOT OFFER] Unsure/ Neither/ Neutral	9%
4 [DO NOT OFFER] Declined to state	0%

The State wants to increase its contribution for health insurance by only \$40 per month the first year and has offered no firm dollar increase for the second and third years. This means that you will be forced to pay a greater amount out of your pocket for health insurance coverage.

Q4 Now please tell me: is the State's position on Health Care Fair or Unfair?

1 Fair	9%
2 Unfair	83%
3 [DO NOT OFFER] Unsure/ Neither/ Neutral	8%
4 [DO NOT OFFER] Declined to state	1%

Next, the State proposes that at their discretion they will determine when certain employees will work either a 37.5 or 40 hour workweek and therefore eliminate 2 ½ hours of overtime.

Q5 Is the State's position on hours and overtime Fair or Unfair?

1 Fair	15%
2 Unfair	77%
3 [DO NOT OFFER] Unsure/ Neither/ Neutral	8%
4 [DO NOT OFFER] Declined to state	0%

Now, in the current contract you are guaranteed two consecutive days off. The State proposes to eliminate that guarantee in the new contract.

Q6 Is the State's position on days off Fair or Unfair?

- | | | |
|---|---|-----|
| 1 | Fair | 6% |
| 2 | Unfair | 88% |
| 3 | [DO NOT OFFER] Unsure/ Neither/ Neutral | 6% |
| 4 | [DO NOT OFFER] Declined to state | 1% |

The State wants to dictate how the union communicates with members and limit our use of stewards.

Q7

- | | | |
|---|---|-----|
| 1 | Fair | 6% |
| 2 | Unfair | 85% |
| 3 | [DO NOT OFFER] Unsure/ Neither/ Neutral | 8% |
| 4 | [DO NOT OFFER] Declined to state | 1% |

Now please consider the following: If the State refuses to budge in its positions on the issues outlined above would you vote to authorize a strike?

Q8

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | Yes- would vote to authorize a strike | 65% |
| 2 | No- does not support a strike | 19% |
| 3 | [DO NOT OFFER] Unsure | 14% |
| 4 | [DO NOT OFFER] Declined to state | 1% |

[IF Q2="1" or CLASSFIELD="1" SKIP Q9, GOTO Q10]

Q9 Would you refuse to cross the picket line of a strike is called?

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|-----|
| 1 | Yes- would honor the picket line | 61% |
| 2 | No- will not honor the picket line | 17% |
| 3 | [DO NOT OFFER] Maybe/ Unsure/ Depends | 21% |
| 4 | [DO NOT OFFER] Declined to state | 2% |

One final question. What source do you depend on to get information about your union? [READ LIST]

[If they choose more than one: Well which ONE do you rely on most?]

Q10

1	Union Bulletin Boards	6%
2	ASEA Web site	18%
3	CNC Web site	0%
4	Newspapers	5%
5	Email	44%
6	Shop Steward	17%
7	Chapter Meetings	4%
8	[DO NOT OFFER] Unsure/Declined	5%

Q11. Gender by Observation: [CALLER: Do Not Ask]

1	Male	35%
2	Female	66%