

Union ★  
Update

OPEIU  
Local



*for OPEIU Local 8 members at Washington State Ferries*

*June 23, 2020*

Dear OPEIU Member:

Unfortunately, we are all well aware by now, Governor Inslee has ordered furloughs for State employees as the state revenue forecast projects an \$8.8 billion drop in tax collections over the next three years.

We have negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which outlines the expected eight furlough days over the next six months. Full-time employees would be expected to take four furlough days (one per week) over the next 30 days, and then one per month between August and November, except for those employees working in the Dispatch Department who are exempt. The intent behind the temporary furloughs is to prevent layoffs.

In the MOU we agree to waive our typical thirty (30) day notification period. We believe this is in the best interest of the members as the CARES ACT currently provides a \$600 federal supplement to state unemployment insurance through July 25, 2020. We aren't considering whether WSF can implement furloughs, they can, it's a matter of when they will go into effect.

**--Scroll to the bottom of this email for voting instructions--**

If you would like to learn more about the furlough MOU, join us tomorrow for a Zoom call:

**When:** Tomorrow, Wednesday, June 24th, 12:00 p.m.

**Where:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2505066115?pwd=eSt2RVVIMDRYUEJBaTF4ckFKUHZBdz09>

**Meeting ID:** 250 506 6115

**Password:** 9832543288

**Join by phone:** 1(253)215-8782

### **MOU VOTING INSTRUCTIONS**

- We are recommending you vote “yes.” A “no” vote will not prevent furloughs, it will only postpone them and likely reduce any unemployment benefit you may receive.
- You can vote now if you’re ready or you can wait until after our Zoom call, but all ballots must be returned by 3pm on Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Only dues-paying members can vote.
- You can only vote once.

To vote on the [MOU](#), please [visit](#).

Contact me with any questions about the MOU at [valarie@opeiu8.org](mailto:valarie@opeiu8.org).

In Solidarity,  
Valarie Peaphon  
Union Representative



**OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION LOCAL 8**

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