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Teamsters Local 700 • Becky Strzechowski, President • Barbara Cornett, Secretary-Treasurer • TeamstersLocal700.com

## WE ARE ONE Union Coalition Files "Pension Theft" Lawsuit

The We Are One Coalition filed a lawsuit on Jan. 28 to overturn the pension-slashing Senate Bill 1. The lawsuit was filed on behalf of 25 individually named plaintiffs and nearly a dozen public-sector unions, including Teamsters Local 700.

Local 700 President Becky Strzechowski brought the matter to Teamsters Joint Council 25 in an effort to unite Local 700's voice with all Illinois Teamsters locals in opposition to the law that reduces public employee pension benefits.

"The pension benefits our members have earned are the very benefits that the state will compromise under this law," said Strzechowski. "Our members should know that we are joining a coalition of union brothers and sisters to protect our members rights as public employees and the benefits they were promised."

Filed in Sangamon County, the We Are One Coalition's lawsuit argues that the new law violates the pension clause of the Illinois Constitution, which unequivocally states that a public employee's pension is a contract that the state cannot diminish or impair.

Teamsters Local 700 members are encouraged to learn more at <u>www.WeAreOneIllinois.com</u>. A scanned copy of the We Are One Coalition's full complaint as filed is also available on the We Are One's website. If you have questions about the lawsuit, contact the Local 700 Union Office at (847) 939-9700.

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