

NAATS HQ E-Mail Update

May 22, 2006

One of the big issues for people is the 1.7% retirement issue and Steve Lenkart has given me some good news. Representative Jim Oberstar a Ranking Member of the House Transportation Committee has committed to correcting the issue. Steve is currently working with his staff to put the language together and get it into a bill. He will work as quickly as he can, but it still has a ways to go. To have Congressman Oberstar behind this is huge and hopefully the good news will continue I can't thank him enough for the commitment. I don't have a time frame right now, look towards the middle of June for the language to be attached to a bill. As soon as I have more I'll get it out to you.

Some of the Directors will be visiting facilities in the next few weeks. Due to the inability of a couple of Directors to travel, you may have either Mike Sheldon in Southern Region and Beth Gerrits in Eastern. A huge thanks to them both for taking this on. They are going to try and hit as many facilities as possible to answer questions and talk one on one with people. If your facility is not visited please feel free to send your questions to NAATSHQ@aol.com we will compile them and put them with the response on the web site.

The web site should be up in the next day or so, sorry for the delay, I'm looking forward to seeing it myself.

From what I'm hearing you all are being asked to give the company a chance and wait a year to see what happens. Let me remind you if you vote no for the union you will have to wait 12 months for another election and then they'll have up to another 12 months to negotiate a contract. By then most of the closing sites will be closed and people moved or fired or laid off with no protections or grievance procedures.

Another reminder, you are the union, this organization will be completely reorganized with a new constitution, newly elected officials and new support from NAGE/SEIU. Please get involved at the very least go to these meetings that are being set up, they are certainly not mandatory, but they are being done for your benefit.

I'll have more in a few days.

Kate Breen