

The Union Difference: Full Union Member VS Non-Member ("Fair Share" Payer)

In 2018, over 1,500 non-members have already signed up to be Local 73 members. Some of the reasons why:

Full Union Membership

Union Contracts

- Union members have a voice in their union contract. Their contract sets their wages, benefits, and working conditions as well as rules for getting promotions, layoff and recall, discipline, and much, much more.
- Union members elect their bargaining committee, and vote whether or not to accept a contract.
- By joining the union, union members let management know that they are sticking together with their co-workers.

Non-Members ("Fair Share" payers)

- Non-members have no voice in what goes into the contract that decides their wages, benefits, and working conditions and the rules around promotions, layoff and recall, discipline etc.
- Non-members are not eligible to vote on the contract or on who represents them.
- Being a non-member means you are willing to accept whatever management wants to propose in the contract

Representation

- Union members have the right to elect their steward or run for steward themselves.
- By committing to support the union financially - regardless of what the courts say- union members make sure that Local 73 will always have the resources needed to provide strong representation.
- When management sees that the union is strong, they are more likely to respect workers' rights in the first place – another reason why membership matters.

- Non-members not eligible to vote for steward or be a steward
- Non-members put all our rights at risk –especially if the Supreme Court rules as expected in the Janus case and blocks unions from receiving agency fees that help pay for representation and legal expenses.
- When management sees that workers don't belong to the union, they decide the union is weak, and are less likely to respect workers' rights.

Voice in public policy / community

- Local 73 members have a powerful voice in government which affects everything from our pensions and health care as public employees to safety in our neighborhoods and what it costs to send our kids to college.
- Union members decide the recommendations for endorsing candidates and legislation, and we back these up with the power that comes from pooling our votes and our dollars. Joining Local 73 will help Illinois get rid of Rauner.

- Non-members aren't part of our collective political power.
- Non-members don't have a voice in the union's decisions about political and policy issues.
- Non-members are sending a message to politicians: "You can do whatever you want to us, and we won't do a thing about it."

