



# UNION NEWS

Union Steward

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Approved for posting,

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Directing Business Representative  
IAM&AW District Lodge 751

## Passage of Membership Bill of Rights Shifts Power Back to Union Members

District 751 members were the driving force behind monumental changes to our IAM Constitution that shifts power back to the membership and ensures that the forced contract vote of Jan. 3, 2014, will never happen again to any other member in the IAM. Passage of the reform on Sept. 6, 2016 culminated a year-long effort led by 751 activists.

Passage of the Membership Bill of Rights ensures that our members will have the right to decide whether they will open up an agreement mid-contract, and our IAM Constitution now requires a vote of the membership to ratify any agreement. The locals and districts will also determine when they will schedule a vote of any future contracts.

We knew that whatever we proposed needed to have overwhelming support from across the U.S. and Canada. The modified bill of rights from the IAM Law Committee captured the spirit and intent of our proposal. (NOTE: Revisions were made to accommodate workers in transportation who are covered by the Railway Labor Act rather than the National Labor Relations Act).

Our locals and other members across the union can build on these rights into the future to make our union stronger.

### IAM & AW Constitution

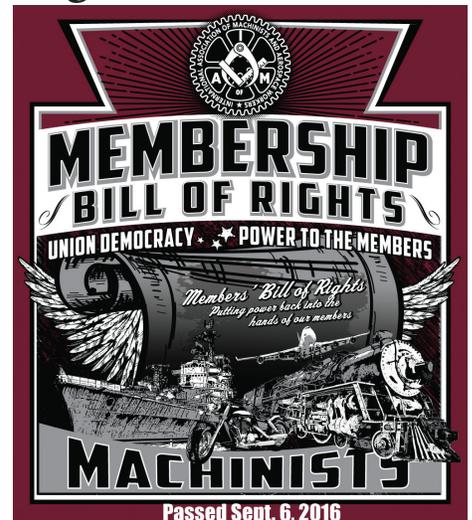
#### Article XX

#### Section - Membership Bill of Rights

This Constitution expressly preserves the following membership rights, which shall be honored unless a District or Local Lodge successfully obtains dispensation for good cause shown:

- 1) Subject to legal requirements concerning impasse, no National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) contract may be implemented without honoring the outcome of a vote of the members it covers.
- 2) Whenever practicable, contract negotiating committees must contain at least one member from the bargaining unit.
- 3) Subject to NLRA requirements, no NLRA contract shall be opened at other than normal expiration of duration without a majority vote of the bargaining unit members.
- 4) Once the union leadership at any level receives a request to bargain from an NLRA employer, the bargaining unit membership must be notified.
- 5) The date, time and location of contract vote shall be determined by District or Local leadership, taking into account the convenience and availability of the membership to participate in the voting process.

### “Membership Bill of Rights” T-shirts \$10



So many members took part in making this historic change a reality, District 751 is offering “Membership Bill of Rights” t-shirts for \$10. To pre-order a t-shirt, visit: [www.iam751.org](http://www.iam751.org)

We should all share in the victory that makes our union stronger for the future.