



**/9.22.23/**

**IN THIS EDITION, YOU WILL FIND:**

- More announcements from the Department of Labor.
- The latest news on the 2024 elections.
- News and updates from around the nation.

*\*\* Like this newsletter? Make sure you and your colleagues are subscribed, email [ufcw-lapad@ufcw.org](mailto:ufcw-lapad@ufcw.org) to get on the list! \*\**

## **National Legislative and Political News**

---

- The Biden administration released a [long-awaited proposed rule](#) on nursing home staffing standards. While the proposal could help create up to 90,000 new nursing and nursing aide jobs, unions and their healthcare allies were disappointed to see the rule recommends 3 hours of nursing care per resident daily, this number falls below a standard of 4.1 hours that was recommended by the agency in 2001.
- An updated cannabis banking bill - now called the SAFER Banking Act - has been introduced, and will be [marked up in the Senate Banking Committee](#) on September 27th.
- Narcan, the opioid overdose-reversal nasal spray drug [will become available in stores](#) as an over-the-counter drug in major retailer stores this month. The suggested price for a two-spray kit is \$44.99.
- Today, the Department of Labor announced [\\$57 million in grant funding](#) for 12 midwestern and western states to support projects for unemployed and underemployed people to access, return to, or advance in high-quality jobs in infrastructure, environment and climate, the care economy and other critical and growing industries.
- Members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) [sent a letter to the Biden administration](#), asking for the redesignation of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for El Salvador, Nicaragua, Honduras and Nepal. Since the letter was sent, the Department of Homeland [security \(DHS\) announced an extension from 60 days to 18 months](#) as periods for TPS designees from these countries and Sudan to re-register for their TPS Status.
- The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) [has approved updated](#) versions of COVID-19 booster shots and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**/9.22.23/**

**IN THIS EDITION, YOU WILL FIND:**

- More announcements from the Department of Labor.
- The latest news on the 2024 elections.
- News and updates from around the nation.

*\*\* Like this newsletter? Make sure you and your colleagues are subscribed, email [ufcw-lapad@ufcw.org](mailto:ufcw-lapad@ufcw.org) to get on the list! \*\**

- (CDC) has [made an official recommendation](#) for everyone 6 months and older to get the booster.
- The Department of Labor (DOL) has proposed a rule that would [provide stronger protections](#) against employer retaliation and improve transparency in the recruitment of H-2A workers. The proposed rule builds upon DOL regulations that came out in October to improve workplace conditions for H-2A workers. The fear of retaliation and no clear protections in agriculture jobs has led to a low union density in the sector.
  - House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) vented his frustration about the hard-line conservatives holding up appropriations, dropping expletives as he [dared his critics to try to oust him](#).
  - Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), a member of the Senate Ag Committee, noted that while [an extension for the Farm Bill is likely](#), she would prefer to get a new bill done by the end of the year, as the committee is close to a deal.
  - A new USA Today/Suffolk University poll shows that Americans remain concerned about rising prices and only 34% of Americans approve of President Biden's handling of the economy, compared with 59% who disapprove. Whats even more troubling for [Democrats is that more Americans trust Trump than Biden to improve the economy](#) by a wide 47%-36% margin.

---

## News From Around the Nation

---

### REGION 1

- Governor Phil Murphy of New Jersey has [appointed Secretary of State Tahesha Way](#) to serve as the New Jersey Lt. Governor after the death of Sheila Oliver over a month ago.

**/9.22.23/**

## IN THIS EDITION, YOU WILL FIND:

- More announcements from the Department of Labor.
- The latest news on the 2024 elections.
- News and updates from around the nation.

*\*\* Like this newsletter? Make sure you and your colleagues are subscribed, email [ufcw-lapad@ufcw.org](mailto:ufcw-lapad@ufcw.org) to get on the list! \*\**

- In Massachusetts, a ballot question to allow city governments [to implement rent control](#) has been certified. If passed, this would be the first time in over thirty years that a rent-focused ballot initiative would have been approved by voters.

## Region 2

- Pennsylvania hedge fund manager David McCormick, who lost his US Senate primary bid to Mehmet Oz last year is planning [to enter the race against Senator Casey](#) in next year's election.
- Ahead of a competitive election in Virginia's 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District next year, Missy Cotter Smasal has announced that she will seek the Democratic nomination [to take on Rep. Jen Kiggans](#).

## Region 4

- New legislation aiming to better protect Michigan kids has been introduced in the state legislature and will receive a hearing. State Rep. Phil Skaggs (D–East Grand Rapids) says his bill HB 4932 will [strengthen Michigan's child labor laws](#) by increasing fines and penalties for companies that exploit kids in the workplace.
- The longest serving member of Minnesota's congressional delegation, Rep. Betty McCollum, D-4th District, [has drawn challengers](#): Republicans Mike Casey and Democrat Aswar Rahman. Casey, a retired Army veteran from St. Paul, has never run for political office before.

## Region 5

- Rep. Byron Donalds (R) said he is [considering a run for governor of Florida in 2026](#), but that he is focused on getting Trump elected in 2024 before moving on to "that other stuff."

**/9.22.23/**

**IN THIS EDITION, YOU WILL FIND:**

- More announcements from the Department of Labor.
- The latest news on the 2024 elections.
- News and updates from around the nation.

*\*\* Like this newsletter? Make sure you and your colleagues are subscribed, email [ufcw-lapad@ufcw.org](mailto:ufcw-lapad@ufcw.org) to get on the list! \*\**

- Right-wing House Freedom Caucus member Ralph Norman (R-SC) said he [may run against primary Senator Lindsey Graham](#) in the 2026 election cycle.

**Region 6**

- After Gov. Kim Reynolds passed a sweeping child labor law in May, businesses were set to be able to give workers under the age of 18 more hours later into the night. A recent letter sent from the U.S. Department of Labor to Iowa lawmakers said some regulations lying within the bill are ["inconsistent" with the same laws](#) at the federal level.
- Most Iowa Republican Caucus voters believe that [the 2020 election was "stolen"](#) according to the Des Moines Register.

**Region 7**

- The husband of Rep. Mary Peltola (D-AK) [died in a plane crash](#) last week in Western Alaska. The NTSB is investigating the crash.

**Region 8**

- A California bill to mandate extensive workplace violence prevention plans passed the state legislature and now [heads to the governor's desk](#) for approval. SB 553, drafted by Senator David Cortese, D-San Jose, requires that nearly all workplaces in California adopt workplace violence prevention plans, log instances of workplace violence, and allow employees to petition for restraining orders.
- Gil Cisneros, a former Democratic congressman who represented California's 39<sup>th</sup> Congressional District from 2019-2021 [announced he is running for California's 31st Congressional District](#) in seat being vacated by retiring Rep. Grace Napolitano (D).

