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April 2, 2018

Dear Local 30 Members,

I would like to update you on where we are with our National Bargaining and provide more details on how we got here. First off, to be clear Local 30 has NOT left the Coalition of Kaiser Permanente Unions. While several other groups have decided to leave for a variety of reasons, the OPEIU local unions across the country remain committed to the Coalition and to the choice our members made years ago when they voted to join.

As a result of the unannounced departure of nearly a third of the membership of the Coalition, Kaiser has been put in the unenviable position of having to figure out how they will proceed given the now multiple demands to bargain. While we in the Coalition certainly maintain our right to bargain, Kaiser leadership has asked for some time to try to sort this out. We have agreed to allow them that time and our National Bargaining will be delayed for a bit to accommodate that request. We fully intend to return as soon as possible to the bargaining table.

For now the Coalition unions continue to prepare for bargaining and work with our committees on our proposals and arguments to ensure our success. We will continue to communicate regularly to keep you informed. Our next meetings as a leadership team will be the week of April 9th and we will continue to develop our strategy and communication plan to keep our members in the loop. Your patience is requested as we work through the issues before us.

Lastly, while the unions that left the Coalition have chosen to no longer be "Partner" unions under the National Agreement, they are still unions and as such we all share many of the same values and goals. Their leaders and their members are still our friends and colleagues and the work we have always done together has benefited us all. For these reasons I am asking that we all refrain from any negative comments and avoid playing into the rumor mill. These communications from me and from YOUR union are intended to keep you informed, but also to make sure you can determine the fact from the fiction. While I cannot control the things that others may say, I will do my best to make sure that you get the facts you need to be able to tell truth from fiction.

If you know of other Local 30 members who would like to receive these text and email updates, please have them go to our website or just call the office.

In unity,

Walter Allen Jr.
Executive Director/CFO