



**Local 514**

## Please Check Your Insurance!!

There have been numerous problems with members not having insurance coverage for themselves and their Dependents. D'Ann Johnson and Malinda Hamm have been working to help all of the members who have been affected and make sure their coverage is available when they need it.

Please do not wait until it is to late to get your coverage fixed. Call D'Ann Johnson at [918-384-9760](tel:918-384-9760) or Malinda Hamm at [918-576-1717](tel:918-576-1717) for questions or help.

The Visiting Nurse Association of Tulsa will be starting Foot Care Clinics at the TWU Hall, 11945 E Pine St Tulsa, OK. Clinics will be held on the fourth Wednesday of every month beginning February 22, 2012 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Appointments are required. Please call 918 695-5165

Warm Water Soak – Nail Trim and file – Callous Care and Massage.

## Why Unions are in Politics

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US Congressmen, Senators, and Oklahoma Governors often decide issues by a vote that affect our daily lives, i.e., labor contracts, they can freeze wages and do away with medical insurance for example:

An emergency rule that eliminates birth as a qualifying event for individual health insurance coverage was approved by Republican Gov. Mary Fallin this week, a spokesman for her office said.

The new rule would amend a rule adopted this summer by eliminating birth as a qualifying event for individual insurance coverage. Additionally, the proposal would eliminate a provision that states nothing shall alter the ability of an applicant to obtain a child-only policy outside of the open enrollment period upon the occurrence of a qualifying event.

Under the new rule, current health insurance industry regulations would be changed to “non-health” eligibility underwriting rules may be applied to child-only coverage, provided such eligibility rules are uniformly applied to all applicants applying for child-only coverage.

Officials with the Oklahoma Hospital Association and the Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy opposed the rule.

“We are very concerned by the rule,” said Patti Davis, the OHA's Executive Vice President. “We think the zero-to-1 population needs to be covered. When births are great, everything is fine. But we know, unfortunately, that there are often issues you don't know about until a baby is born. That's a big concern.”

## WARN Letter

**We have received many questions about the WARN letter and whether each individual will receive one.**

When workers are represented by the Union, the President of the Union will receive the letter on behalf of it's membership. Then it is up to that leader when and how to notify the membership. This information can be found at [www.doleta.gov/layoff/pdf/workerWARN2003.PDF](http://www.doleta.gov/layoff/pdf/workerWARN2003.PDF). This link is a PDF file of the entire version of WARN Worker Adjustment And Retaining Notification (WARN) Act. Please understand everyone will be notified as soon as the President receives the letter.

### OKC Thunder Basketball Ticket Winners

February 17<sup>th</sup> Game: Jeff Potts, Brian Kirsch, Malinda Hamm, Wayne Gustafson, David Sanders, Susan Bushwood, Pat Kinnamon, Eric Keys, Del Cotton and Jim Wopart.

February 19<sup>th</sup> Game: Stan Jone, Doug Barnett, David Bellamy, Carol Matthews, Jim Foutch, Ron Gideon, Arthur Hendrix, James Gross, Heidi Virdell and Preston Wilson.

## Update of the FAA Re Authorization Passage

Following three-and-a-half years without a full FAA re-authorization, which led to 23 stopgap extensions and one painful shutdown of the FAA, the Senate approved the “FAA Air Transportation Modernization and Safety Improvement Act” 75-20.

The bill was introduced at the beginning of the 112th Congress, and contains several issues of great importance to TWU members. Congressional Republicans attached an unrelated labor provision to the bill, which labor unions, Democratic leaders, and President Obama saw as an issue, viewed as a nonstarter. This issue—the reversal of the NMB’s yes/no ballot ruling—held the bill up for almost a year and was a key issue during the FAA shutdown in August 2011.

Three weeks ago, Senate Democrats and the House Republicans informed that a “compromise” was reached to strike the yes/no ballot provision and instead made modifications to the way NMB elections are triggered and to require frequent GAO reviews of the NMB’s work. TWU remains furious about the process under which this “compromise” was reached—with absolutely no consultation with labor unions, whose Members will ultimately be impacted by the changes they’ve made.

Regardless, funding the FAA— rather than dragging the debate into the next Congress, and preventing another shutdown— has been the ultimate goal. Last week, before the House was scheduled to take up the bill (which they passed 248-169), President Little sent a letter to every Member of Congress, specifically outlining TWU’s position on the legislation. ( you can read the letter by going to [www.TWU.org](http://www.TWU.org)). In addition to giving the aviation industry a sense of certainty for the next four years, the “FAA Air Transportation Modernization and Safety Improvement Act” does the following:

--Mandates annual inspections of non-certificated foreign repair stations

--Calls for stricter drug and alcohol testing for foreign repair workers

--Provides significant funding for the implementation of NextGen

--Orders the FAA and OSHA to create a work plan to extend safety and health protections to flight attendants—a process that was started over ten years ago .

While we remain skeptical about the good the GAO reports will do, and are concerned about the ambiguity over merger procedures, we supported the bill until the final hour, and applaud both the Senate and the House of Representatives for passing it.([www.TWU.org](http://www.TWU.org))



### **TWU Local 514 Jackets**

Black TWU, Local 514 jackets are on sale at the Union Hall Office for \$35 each, cash or check. Sizes available are S, M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL and 5X.



Brown TWU, Local 514 jackets are also on sale for \$45. each, cash or check. Sizes available are M, L, XL, 2XL, 3XL.

*Please bring the correct change or a check*