



Amalgamated Transit Union

LOCAL UNION 1342

196 ORCHARD PARK RD. WEST SENECA, NY 14224
PHONE: (716) 825-9217 FAX: (716) 825-9243



August 14, 2017

Brothers and Sisters:

Please take time to read this in its entirety. On November 7, 2017, our Union lives could be at risk. I spoke to many of you about this in the past and how important it was to secure a contract with Metro in the event this comes to fruition. I urge you and your family to **VOTE NO** on this proposition on November 7, 2017. Thank you for your consideration.

In Solidarity,
Jeff Richardson



On November 7, 2017, when New Yorkers head to the polls, they will see this question on the ballot: "*Shall there be a convention to revise the constitution and amend the same?*"

For many New Yorkers, this will be their first time seeing a constitutional convention question on the ballot; others may remember being asked that question in 1997 because in New York, every 20 years, the voters get to decide if a convention should be held. The delegates at that convention can debate whether New York's Constitution, the document that determines the structure of New York State government and the rights of its citizens, should be changed.

The hard-earned rights and benefits of ATU members and millions of families across New York State face a **grave threat this year: A Constitutional Convention** would be a high-stakes gamble with the bedrock of New York State's promise to its residents and work force, with potentially serious consequences for all New York families and dire implications for public employees.

That's why the ATU's across NY State **stand in firm opposition** to a state constitutional convention and urges all NYS ATU members and all New Yorkers to vote "NO" when the question comes before you on the November 7, 2017 ballot.

AMONG OUR CONCERNS:

- **At risk:** The health of public employee pensions would be at risk; The constitution guarantees your pension will be there;
- **The social safety net** – The state constitution ensures the state provides for citizens in need;
- **Our voting rights** – The constitution provides valuable protections;
- **The cost:** Experts estimate a constitutional convention will cost hundreds of millions in taxpayer dollars;
- **At risk:** It jeopardizes rights that New Yorkers depend on daily

Labor rights at risk!

- **At risk:** The right to unionize and bargain collectively. Your union's strength could be jeopardized;
- **At risk:** Workers' compensation. Safeguard your rights if you're injured on the job;
- **At risk:** Right to assemble and petition, Qualification of Voters

Don't risk your rights/your future!

- **At risk:** Increase influence of the special interest
- **At risk:** Introduction to "Right to work" Legislation. Allows Freeloaders to gain advantages of the union gains without paying Dues!
- **At risk:** The state Constitution safeguards fundamental rights you enjoy as a citizen of New York State.
- **At risk:** Right to be paid the prevailing rate of wages for your labor;
- **At risk:** The 40-hour work week;

A constitutional convention puts these guaranteed rights in jeopardy. A convention can eliminate all or some of these rights already enjoyed by New York's citizenry.

To all members, their families and friends on "**NOVEMBER 7, 2017,**"

A NYS Constitutional Convention is BAD for New Yorkers. VOTE "**NO**"!

*Supported Strongly by New York State ATU LOCALS 726, 1181, 1056, 1321, 1342, 1145, 1592,
1625, 282, 580, 582, 1179*