



# LOCAL 15 UNITY NEWSLETTER

May 26, 2010

## 2010 UNION ELECTION

### **ABOUT YOUR BALLOT....**

It has been brought to my attention that some individuals are questioning the bar code on the return envelope and the bar code at the bottom of the ballot and what the purpose is.

The bar code below your return address, on the return envelope, is used to identify the member returning the ballot. One of the reasons we are using this bar code is that it eliminates challenged and/or voided ballots caused by members who did not provide a return address, the writing was illegible, or members only provided their last name. The other reason is that, the Office of Labor-Management Standards of the U.S. Department of Labor recommends this in conducting an election.

The bar code at the bottom of the ballot is used by Election Works. They are the company contracted to print and tally our election. Election Works uses a brand new tabulating system certified to run elections (Federal/State/Local/etc.) anywhere in the United States. Per Election Works "The bar code on the ballot is what tells our tabulator what election we are tabulating (in this case Local 15's election), the same bar code will be on every ballot (it has nothing to do with the individual voting). Our system is set up to tabulate federal elections, so with that being said it needs to be able to read multiple different codes, for example; Election ID, Precinct ID, Language ID, etc.. (However, with Union elections, the only thing that we need to read is the Election ID code)."

I hope this clears up any concerns members might have regarding the use of bar codes in their ballot packet.

Sincerely,

Larry Ferguson

Election Judge