

## Southern California Members March for Good Grocery Jobs



*UFCW Local 770 member and Albertsons worker Sharon Heckler, looks on as Vons worker Chelsea Davenport delivers a rousing speech to a crowd of supporters outside the Albertsons headquarters in Arcadia, Calif.*

After months with no contract, thousands of Southern California UFCW members took to the streets in three marches held June 28, 2011. Thousands of workers at Vons, Albertsons and Ralphs who are members of Locals 135, 324, 770, 1167, 1428 and 1442 marched on their respective corporate headquarters to demand a contract that lets them support their families without being dependent on government handouts.

“I want to support my community,” said Albertsons worker and Local 770 member Tatyana Bryant as she addressed a crowd in front of Vons corporate headquarters in Arcadia, Calif., “not be subsidized by my community.”

UFCW members, supporters and community groups also rallied in front of the Vons headquarters in Arcadia, Calif. and the Ralphs headquarters in Compton, Calif. on the same day.

UFCW grocery members in Southern California have been without a contract since March 2011 while bargaining continues with the three largest grocery chains: Vons (a unit of Safeway), Albertsons (a unit of Supervalu) and Ralphs (a unit of Kroger). **OP**



*Uncle Sam stands with grocery workers outside Vons corporate headquarters in Arcadia, Calif.*

## UFCW Members in Ohio File Signatures to Overturn Anti-Worker Senate Bill 5

On June 29, members of Local 75 along with We Are Ohio and thousands more community members marched down the streets of Columbus, Ohio to deliver signatures that will put Senate Bill (SB) 5, a bill that directly attacks working families, on the November ballot for repeal.



*UFCW Local 75 members stand with a firefighter supporter as they march to turn in over a million signatures for the repeal of SB5 in Ohio.*



Hundreds of UFCW members in Ohio - including members of Locals 75, 1059, 880, 17A, RWDSU and ICWUC - worked tirelessly along other union and community allies to collect the signatures to repeal the damaging bill. The 1.3 million signatures they helped collect is a record number for any referendum petition in Ohio.

SB 5, signed by Governor John Kasich, undercuts the collective bargaining rights for more than 350,000 teachers, police officers and other state employees. It also severely limits the collective bargaining rights of unions, who can now only bargain for better wages, and can no longer bargain for health care, sick time or pension benefits. **OP**

## Local 700 Ratifies New Agreement with Kroger in South Bend

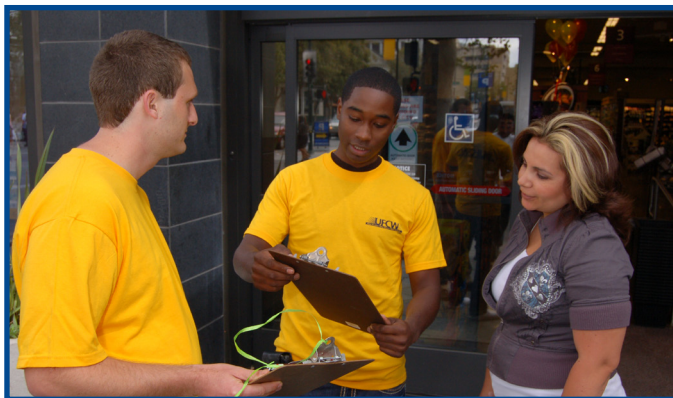
UFCW members who work at Kroger stores in the South Bend, Ind. area have ratified a new three-year, eight-month contract with their employer. The 800 workers, members of Local 700, overwhelmingly supported the new deal.

Bargaining committee member and Local 700 steward Karen Salzer said that standing united made the difference for their contract. "Our members made sure Kroger knew we wanted a good contract that would let us support our families," said Salzer, who has worked at Kroger in LaPorte, Ind. for 18 years, "and we were united to win the best contract we could get."

The new contract includes pay raises for members and preserves the pension plan for the future with additional employer contributions. It also maintains the current health and welfare plan until they renegotiate as a group alongside their fellow Kroger workers in Indianapolis and Fort Wayne in 2012 for a new health care deal. The contract had been expired since February.

"This contract shows that big, profitable grocery chains like Kroger can reach good deals that benefit the communities they are a part of," said Local 700 President Joe Chorpensing. "There's no excuse for them not to do the same in California." **OP**

## ABC Contest Kicks Off!



Join the fight to defend workers' rights and benefits in Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana and nationwide.

As you know, the Active Ballot Club (ABC) leads the charge to elect pro-worker candidates. By pushing back against corporate greed and anti-worker legislation, UFCW local unions and your members can win big. From July 1 to November 1, 2011, UFCW members are eligible to win a \$500 gift card and/or a prize for their UFCW local union, just by signing up to contribute \$1 a week--or by upgrading their contribution to that level. And all members who sign up or upgrade to \$1 will be eligible to win one of twenty-four \$500 American Express gift cards.

For more information, or to download flyers for reps to use in stores, go to [VoteUFCW.org](http://VoteUFCW.org) or call the Legislative and Political Action Department at the International. **OP**

