



Holding the Line

Strike Update
Issue #9

Nationwide Support Builds Labor, Community Groups Help “Hold the Line”

“It is great to know that so many unions and so many people around the country are behind us. This fight is about saving health care for all workers.”

—Rafael Morga,
Ralphs, Chino

On Thursday, UFCW President Doug Dority and AFL-CIO President John Sweeney were joined by other union leaders, as well as national leaders from consumer, civil rights, religious, and women’s groups to show commitment for the strikes here, as well as across the country.

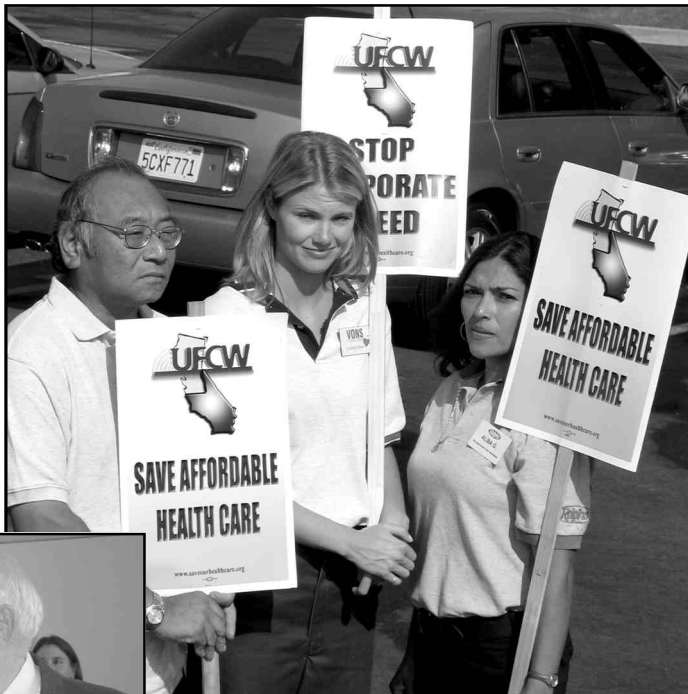
Vons and Ralphs workers from Locals 324 and 1428 stood with Kroger workers from Local 400, who are also striking in West Virginia, Ohio, and Kentucky to save affordable health care, at the AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington, DC.

President Dority and President Sweeney announced the formation of the “Hold the Line for Health Care Strike Fund,” which allows other unions, as well as individual supporters, to contribute to the fight to save affordable health care.

“We will not allow any workers to be starved into giving up health care benefits. We will be there one day longer, fighting to save health care, than Safeway will be there, trying to kill health care,” said President Dority.



(From left to right) Local 1428 member Rafael Morga, Local 400 member Lisa Butcher, UFCW President Doug Dority, and Local 324 members Matthew Hart and Lillie Gibson joined together to “hold the line” for health care.



(Left) Lillie Gibson, who works at Ralphs in Downey, meet AFL-CIO President John Sweeney at the announcement of the “Hold the Line for Health Care Strike Fund” in Washington, DC, while workers back home hold the line at their stores.

National Coalition to Hold the Line for Health Care

- Service Employees International Union
- International Association of Machinists
- Bakery, Confectionary, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers
- Building and Construction Trades Department
- Leadership Conference on Civil Rights
- National Organization for Women
- Institute for Women’s Policy Research
- Labor Council for Latin American Advancement
- Mexican American Legal Defense Fund and Education Fund
- Asian-Pacific American Labor Alliance