



Teamsters Local 251 Contract Update

Feb. 6

Rhode Island Hospital employees and community supporters are speaking up loud and clear for a fair contract, good jobs and quality care.

More than 500 Teamster members braved the cold and hit the pavement on our informational picket line last week.

More than 17,000 public supporters have signed a petition to tell Lifespan to Put Patients First, Not Your Executives.

Contract negotiations resume today with management. We'll see if they're getting the message.

We've brought common-sense proposals to the negotiating table and bargained in good faith.

Lifespan has responded with demands that are a slap in the face to employees, including:

- Two years without a wage increase
- Eliminate all job security protections, including ending the No Layoffs clause and unlimited rights to give our jobs away to temps or subcontractors.
- Force everyone into the Lifespan health plan.
- No improvement in our retirement benefits after cutting our 403(b) match.

The Hospital is also proposing to gut our seniority rights. Management wants the right to pick and choose who loses their position as a result of Epic with no regard for seniority.

Under management's proposal, a 3-year employee could keep their job, while a 20-year employee is forced to take an open position anywhere in the Hospital.

This is completely unfair and it's about much more than Epic. Going forward, management wants to gut our bumping rights if management imposes layoffs in the future.



Management Says: Stop Whining!

The Hospital has rejected every single one of our proposals about staffing, equipment and patient care.

They even rejected our proposal that employees should be treated with "dignity and respect."

And it gets worse. When a long-time shop steward spoke up this week about the Hospital's unfair inclement weather policy, H.R.'s response was that he should "Stop Whining."

The nearly 2,500 Teamsters who make Rhode Island Hospital run aren't "whining." We are speaking up good jobs and quality care.

And we will continue to do so until our concerns are heard and we reach agreement on a fair contract.

The Bargaining Committee will meet with management today and on Monday, February 9.

Call the Contract Hotline at 888-837-4536 for updates.

Stay informed. Stay involved. Stay united.