Time to tie tax breaks to jobs

OLYMPIA, Wash. – To the surprise of many, The Boeing Company recently asked Washington state to suspend its much sought-after tax incentives. It’s less of a surprise the company is also pressing for “snap-back” provisions that allow the incentives to be fully re-instated once its disagreement with the World Trade Organization is smoothed out.

SPEEA continues to support the use of tax incentives to “maintain and grow” the state’s aerospace workforce. However, Boeing used the lack of job requirements in Washington’s aerospace incentives to move jobs to other states and secure tax breaks that required new jobs. Washington remains the only state to grant aerospace tax breaks without tying them to jobs.

Two bills in the Washington Legislature attempt to fix that oversight and require Boeing to meet its obligation to “maintain and grow” the aerospace workforce before incentives could be re-instated after suspension. However, the company is again wielding its weight around the state to rally against job requirements. The efforts included a recent opinion piece in The Seattle Times by the mayors of Everett, Renton, Kent and Auburn who came out in support of Boeing. This happened despite the fact that since the state extended the tax incentives in 2013, these cities realized a combined loss of 1,799 Boeing jobs just from SPEEA bargaining units. The total loss of jobs is thousands more.

While the proposed legislation currently lacks job provisions, there is still time to send a message to legislators. More than 460 letters have been sent to legislators by SPEEA members through a “Take Action” alert email. Send yours today by visiting the website at: www.speea.org.

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Pilots vote – P2
PNAA scholarship – P3
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Pizza, salad and nine holes of miniature golf brought together 15 members and their families Feb. 22. The Northwest New Hire Committee organized the event at Flatisck Pub in Kirkland. The pub features a family friendly area. One SPEEA member brought her daughter, 7. Some members said this is the first SPEEA event they attended. Shown above, from left, Laura Zapata, Devin Oyetibo, Furqan Shab, Bishakha Bhattachary and Catalina Buitrago.

SPEEA Pilot/Instructors Unit approves new contract

SEATTLE – SPEEA Pilots and Instructors Unit (SPIU) members approved a new four-year contract with The Boeing Company. Ballots were counted Feb. 24.

By a vote of 22 to 2, members approved the new contract that provides a substantial boost in salaries. The new contract goes into effect immediately through March 6, 2024.

Washington state legislature

Bill to amend Paid Family and Medical Leave keeps going

OLYMPIA, Wash. – SPEEA successfully kept Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML) on track for a vote in the Washington state legislature.

SPEEA Legislative Director Brandon Anderson teamed up with SPEEA allies in Olympia to include an opt-in feature for those covered by a union contract and unable to access the state benefit. This is an amendment to SHB 2614 concerning Paid Family and Medical Leave.

“It cleared the Senate Rules Committee and is scheduled for a vote in the Senate,” Anderson said March 4 about the bill with the amendment.

The bill is necessary because the initial statute creating PFML included a Boeing-lobbied loophole to delay access to the benefit for thousands of union-represented employees.

The 2020 legislative session is scheduled to end Thursday, March 12.

Diversity Committee movie night in Everett

EVERETT – Members and their guests are welcome to watch “I Am Not Your Negro,” a movie selected by the SPEEA Diversity Committee. The movie starts at 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 18, at SPEEA Everett.

The movie is based on the unfinished manuscript of novelist James Baldwin, who was close friends with Medgar Evers, Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X.

Reserve a seat – email justinl@speea.org.
Supporting careers in aerospace

SPEEA Northwest Council Treasurer Mike Arrington, center, receives a certificate of appreciation on behalf of SPEEA from Pacific Northwest Aerospace Alliance (PNAA) Scholarship Director Larry Sowa, left, and PNAA Board Member Torsten Welte. SPEEA was recognized at the Feb. 4 awards banquet for sponsoring a $2,500 scholarship to help a college student pursue a career in aerospace. This is the 10th year SPEEA sponsored a scholarship.

Labor Council event

Workshop on motivating members and allies

EVERETT – What moves people? The answer depends, but the common denominator is a message that comes from the heart.

Practice your authentic story telling at a workshop taught by Mark McDermott, economic justice and labor educator.

Speaking from the Heart

Motivating Union Members and Winning New Allies

Saturday, March 28 – 9 a.m. to noon
John Noble Room, Everett Labor Temple
2810 Lombard St., Everett
Sign up – charlotte@snolabor.org

At the workshop:

McDermott describes it as an educational and skill-building exercise. The workshop helps participants identify and practice telling their personal stories. For example, what caused you to get involved in your union and/or community?

Those stories are how you can demonstrate your positive vision and values with other union members, current and potential community allies and non-union workers.

Puget Sound

Level upgrade training at SPEEA

At this training, presented by SPEEA contract administrators, learn more tips and information about how to pursue an upgrade.

Pursuing Upgrades – What to Know

Monday, March 16

- SPEEA Everett - 4:30 p.m. – email justinl@speea.org to sign up
- SPEEA Tukwila - 5 p.m. – email meetings@speea.org to sign up

The presentation is also available for lunchtime meetings. Council Reps work with Contract Administrators to schedule this for members in their districts.

COVID-19 information online

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has information online regarding Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). The information includes suggestions to prevent infection from this respiratory disease.

See more information at www.cdc.gov.
Members learn about Performance Management

Members are shown here at SPEEA Everett, Feb. 10, to learn tips for improving their Performance Management scores. About 40 attended each training at SPEEA Everett and Tukwila. The training emphasizes communication with your manager to clarify what meets and exceeds expectations. If you’re having difficulties, talk with your Council Rep who can reach out to the Contract Administrator if needed.

Executive Board mini-minutes – Feb. 6

Attendees: Joel Funfar, Jimmie Mathis, Ryan Rule, Daniel Peters, Dan Nowlin, Mike Shea, Keith Covert

Council officers: Mike Arrington, Tony Hickerson, Michelle Cooper, Doug Brazeal, RMatthew Joyce

Guests: Jim Brown, Jim Roberts, Jeffrey Forbes, Ellen Kelman, Mark McDermott

Staff: Ray Goforth, Robin Fleming, BJ Moore, Rich Plunkett, Matt Kempf, Steve Spyridis, Jerry DiLeonardo, Jason Collette

At their regular meeting, the Board:

- Approved Sean Peters the use of SPEEA’s Everett Hall Feb. 1.
- Approved up to 32 hours of SPEEA compensated time each for Derek Milligan, Michelle Granke, Rick Nelson and Brennan Macklin to attend the lobby trip to Topeka, Kan., Feb. 18-21, a total of up to 128 hours of SPEEA paid time.
- Appointed Wade Oswald to the Ed Wells Joint Policy Board.
- Approved up to $300 for meals for all attendees and up to eight hours of SPEEA compensated time each for Amy Freiburghaus, Justin Hoehn and Dan Nowlin to participate in Washington State Senate Bill SB 6216 hearing on Paid Family and Medical Leave in Olympia, Wash., Jan. 20.
- Approved Sound Alliance the use of SPEEA’s Seattle Hall on Friday, March 13 and Saturday, March 14.
- Approved up to eight hours SPEEA compensated time and $350 expenses for Roger Asaka to participate in the Washington State Labor Council Legislative Conference Feb. 5-6.
- Approved up to eight hours SPEEA compensated time each for Mike Arrington and Doug Brazeal Feb. 3.
- Approved up to two seminars, “Making the American Dream Real for Everyone,” at the 2020 SPEEA Leadership Conference with Mark McDermott at a cost of $1,000.
- Approved up to 32 hours of SPEEA compensated time and up to $2,600 each for Michelle Cooper and Amy Freiburghaus to attend the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) National Executive Board (NEB) March 10-14.
- Approved submitting the revision of the professional bargaining unit contract and the technical bargaining unit contract for bargaining unit member ratification with a recommendation to approve.

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULES

NORTHWEST MEETINGS (ALL TIMES PDT)

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<td>Tuesday, March 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 p.m. NW Membership Activities</td>
<td>3:30 p.m. SPEEA Legislative &amp; Public Affairs</td>
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<td>Tuesday, March 10</td>
<td>4:30 p.m. NW Tellers</td>
<td>4:30 p.m. NW Legislative &amp; Public Affairs</td>
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<td>Wednesday, March 11</td>
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<td>4:00 p.m. Executive Board</td>
<td>4:00 p.m. NW Legislative &amp; Public Affairs</td>
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<td>Thursday, March 12</td>
<td>3:00 p.m. SPEEA Council</td>
<td>Wednesday, March 25</td>
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<td>3:00 p.m. SPEEA Council</td>
<td>4:00 p.m. NW Safety and Wellness</td>
<td>4:30 p.m. NW Women’s Advocacy</td>
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MIDWEST MEETINGS (ALL TIMES CDT)

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<td>6:00 p.m. SPEEA Diversity</td>
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