



# CONTRACT 2007

District 26 - Local 700 - Local 1746 - Local 1746A

## STANDING TOGETHER



## Healthcare Games

### Roll The Dice

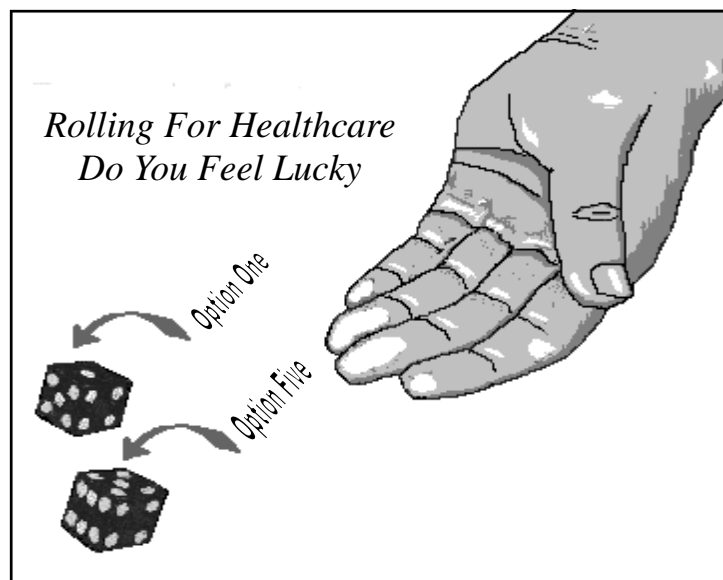
Will I pay too much or too little for my health insurance? This is what will worry most members about the company's "choices." Err on the side of caution and you will be spending more than you should have to. Spend too little and you may find yourself paying a lot out of your own pocket if you get sick. All that the members really want is a good health plan at a reasonable cost. Instead of addressing that demand, the company wants to make healthcare a game of chance, a roll of the dice. You get to gamble with your healthcare.

### You're The Doctor!

Yes, that's right. Company negotiators believe if they make you pay more, you will play doctor and start to question the healthcare you are receiving. In their presentation they stated many times that hourly workers "**over utilize**" their health care insurance. They referred to the cost of procedures like MRI's, CAT Scans and PET Scans as contributing to the rising costs. Union Chief Negotiator Jim Parent told the company negotiators, "Our members simply don't decide to go out and get a CAT Scan today, it's up to the doctors." Even so, the best plan the company can come up with is to shift costs onto each and every one of us so we will stop "**over utilizing**" our medical insurance.

### "The Choice Is Up To You"

That's what company negotiators said as they plopped down the same lousy Corporate Healthcare Package they dropped on the table last August. Besides taking away the \$7500 early retiree



insurance supplement we all sacrificed for in 1993, they want us to pay more for all of our healthcare costs with:

- ▶ **Higher weekly payroll deductions.**
- ▶ **Deductibles applied to procedures previously covered, or only requiring co-pays.**
- ▶ **Higher out-of-pocket expenses.**
- ▶ **Higher prescription drug costs.**

The trouble is, there are no choices here. You can pay more now or take your chances, roll the dice, and pay even more later.

### Universal Healthcare

It's clear the company's healthcare proposal does little to address wellness issues and does much to shift costs on to workers. What appeared to be the only positive discussion concerning healthcare issues came from a Union proposal to include a letter in the contract that would form a joint Union and Company committee to explore the issue of Universal Healthcare. The company agreed to discuss it further.

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## ONE UNION - ONE VOICE

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