International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers

January 24, 2020

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I hope everyone had a happy and safe New Year. That being said, 2020 has quickly approached and with that comes the new election cycle. We have local, state, and federal elections including the Presidential race that are critical to Labor. The first date of importance is February 18th, 2020. That is the final date to register to vote in the March 17th, 2020 Presidential Preference Primary. Remember, Florida is a closed primary state, which means that only registered Democrats can vote for Democratic candidates and only registered Republicans may vote for Republican candidates. Registered voters with no party affiliation (NPA) or with minor party affiliation are not eligible to vote in this election. At this time, there are candidates running in both parties for President and there have been no endorsements by the AFL/CIO or the IBEW at the Federal level. A political endorsement is a public declaration of a group’s support of a candidate for elected office based on what’s best for the whole of the group.

There are 3 ways to vote:

1. Vote by mail
2. Early voting
3. Election Day Voting

Visit your specific counties supervisor of elections website for specific dates and hours of operation. Go to our website at WWW.IBEW915.ORG then navigate just below our banner and click on “POLITICAL ACTION”, you will be able to access every link necessary to answer just about any question you may have as far as early voting, vote by mail, voter status, if you’re registered to vote, check your signature, precinct locations, etc.

During this time of “alternative facts” and “fake news”, make sure you do your own research and determine which candidates are the best choice for you, your family, and your career. Whether we chose to accept it or not, much of what we do as a union is influenced by politics. For example, how our apprenticeship is funded, the future of our multi-employer pension fund (NEBF), the ability to organize, laws governing our health insurance, right-to-work laws, and in the public sector the very existence of unions as a whole. We have the numbers to address every issue we face, but we need every member and their families support by getting out to VOTE.

In Solidarity,

Shawn McDonnell
President West Central Florida Labor Council
Organizer IBEW Local 915