

News Alert

For Immediate Release
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YALE WORKERS SET TO STRIKE AUGUST 27

SENATOR LIEBERMAN TO SPEAK AT YALE ON MONDAY, AUGUST 25

Thousands of secretaries, food service workers, maintenance workers, and researchers will walk off their jobs at Yale University on Wednesday, August 27—the day students return to school—if the Yale Corporation refuses to provide its employees decent pensions, competitive wages and job security.

The University-wide strike highlights the key issues facing American workers this Labor Day—job security and retirement. Workers are increasingly finding their benefits under attack. The workers at Yale are fighting back.

In 2002, a worker with 30+ years of service at Yale receives as little as \$506.02 a month from their Yale pension. And a custodian with 29 years of services takes home \$183.99, while Yale's pension fund enjoys a \$200,000 surplus. Even with social security many Yale retirees are struggling to make ends meet.

On Monday, just two days before the strike deadline, Senator Joe Lieberman will attend a news conference at Yale to call on the administration to reach a fair contract or arbitrate the dispute. Senator Lieberman will hold a news conference at 10:30 a.m. in front of Woodbridge Hall in Beincke Plaza.

- **Yale pays far less than other major universities.** At Harvard the lowest paid senior clerical workers make 5% more than the highest paid senior clerical workers at Yale.
- **Yale has a notorious history of strikes and labor relations**—resulting in eight strikes out the last 10 contract negotiations. Yale's own labor consultant said that must “redesign the way the way Yale manages, communicates, plans and makes decisions, trains, promotes, and rewards employees.”
- **The labor dispute has created a new and strong relationship between the workers at Yale, the clergy, community groups, and elected officials of New Haven.** One out of four jobs in New Haven is a Yale job, and Yale sets the labor market for the entire area and has tremendous economic and political clout in one of America's poorest cities.

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