

# MILESTONES REPORT: Advocating for Workers' Rights



Attorney General Raoul is committed to **protecting the rights of all workers**, regardless of their status. That means **enforcing wage and labor laws**, ensuring employers compete fairly for employees, and **advocating for stronger workplace protections**.

## Ensuring employees are paid what they earn

### Applauding New Tipped Workers Rules:



Attorney General Kwame Raoul, along with Pennsylvania Attorney General Josh Shapiro, led a coalition of

nine states in praising the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) new tip regulation, dismissing the states' lawsuit and ending the fight to overturn what had been a harmful rule.

### Restoring Improperly Withheld Overtime Pay:

The Attorney General announced a consent decree with a Chicago roofing company resolving allegations the company unlawfully withheld overtime wages from its workers, some of whom often worked over 60 hours a week.

Attorney General Raoul also obtained settlements with construction subcontractors building a new production line for Rivian



Automotive, Inc. that resolve a joint investigation by the Attorney General's office and the Illinois Department of Labor. The settlements require the chain of subcontractors to pay nearly \$400,000 in back wages and penalties to resolve allegations that they failed to pay Mexican laborers for overtime worked.



AG Raoul as a guest of UA Local 137 Plumbers & Steamfitters in Springfield.

## Supporting employees' rights to work together and improve their workplace

### Advocating for the Right to Organize:

Attorney General Raoul, as part of a coalition of 17 attorneys general, called on the U.S. Senate to pass the Protecting the Right to Organize Act of 2021 (PRO Act). The PRO Act strengthens and modernizes the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA), which enshrines workers' fundamental rights to organize, unionize and bargain collectively.

### Supporting Rights in Federal Work Sites:

Attorney General Kwame Raoul joined a coalition of 11 attorneys general, as well as several local agencies across the country, in a letter supporting the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) plan to change its worksite enforcement practices to support enforcement of wage protections, workplace safety, labor rights, and other employment laws and standards.

**MORE...**

# MILESTONES REPORT: Advocating for Workers' Rights, cont.

## Pushing back on workplace discrimination based on race or gender

### Fighting Race Discrimination in the Workplace:

Attorney General Kwame Raoul announced consent decrees with two Illinois companies resolving a lawsuit alleging the companies conspired to discriminate against job applicants based on race. According to Raoul, Mistica Foods, a meat processing company, and Specialized Staffing engaged in a brazen pattern of discrimination against Black workers and job applicants who sought employment at Mistica through Specialized Staffing.

### Correcting and Preventing Sex Discrimination:

Attorney General Kwame Raoul filed consent decrees reached with a temporary staffing agency and three companies that utilize temporary staffing labor. The decrees resolve allegations that the companies segregated workplaces and discriminated against workers based on their sex when hiring. It will ensure the companies take steps to prevent future discrimination when hiring and require the companies to pay civil penalties totaling \$280,000.

## Looking out for the long-term impact on workers from national actions

### Granting Worksite Access to Union Organizers Ensures Access for Others who Protect Workers and Public:



Attorney General Kwame Raoul, with 18 attorneys general, filed an amicus with the U.S. Supreme Court in *Cedar Point Nursery v. Hassid*, which could have wide-ranging implications for state and federal regulations that protect workers and ensure public health. Raoul and the coalition urged the court to uphold a California regulation that allows union organizers to access properties where agricultural employees are working. The coalition argued that a decision in favor of the plaintiffs could lead to government food and safety inspectors being denied access to commercial properties.

### Protecting Workers from Cuts to In-home Care Programs:

Attorney General Kwame Raoul, as part of a multi-state coalition, submitted a comment letter commending the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) action to reverse a rule that would have jeopardized in-home care for older adults and people with disabilities, as well as the jobs of several hundred thousand home-care workers nationwide.



### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Workplace Rights Hotline  
844-740-5076  
[workplacerrights@ilag.gov](mailto:workplacerrights@ilag.gov)

