

International Brotherhood
of Electrical Workers

Charles H. Pillard
International
President

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Secretary



IBEW

1125-15th St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.
20005

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TO ALL I.B.E.W. PENSION MEMBERS

Dear Pensioner:

I am gratified by the great response to the survey that we mailed to you in December. As of this date we have had a 60% return, a record breaking response according to communication experts.

From analyzing some of the returns, the pressing needs of our retirees are quite apparent. Income, without a doubt is the most evident, a fact we were aware of before the survey was made. We will continue to support and fight for increased benefit amounts in Social Security and Railroad Retirement. You may rest assured that we will do everything within reason to upgrade IBEW service to our retired members.

Another area of concern shown, is the one of inadequate health care and the high cost of drugs. We were dismayed to find a great number of our retirees have not taken the benefit of Medical Insurance, better known as Part B of Medicare. Even with its limitations, it is the most protection for the money that those over 65 years of age can buy.

The 1970 International Convention passed a resolution urging all Local Unions to organize Retired Members Clubs and have them affiliate with the National Council of Senior Citizens. The National Council of Senior Citizens (NCSC) is an organization of over 3,000 clubs with a membership of more than 3,000,000 older Americans. The NCSC was founded in the early 1960's with the backing of the Trade Union Movement and was the prime mover in the enactment of Medicare.

Enclosed are brochures outlining the programs of the NCSC. Because the IBEW is an affiliate, our retirees can become Gold Card members for \$2.50 a year. We are not in the Insurance or Wholesale Drug Business. These are two services that are available with membership in the NCSC that we wanted to bring to your attention. The Insurance Programs offered by the NCSC must be compared to other Insurance Company Plans. The information enclosed is to make you aware of what is available and then ask that you use your own judgment after comparisons have been made.

We believe that the old Union slogan of, "In Unity there is Strength," is as important today as when you first joined the IBEW. The NCSC is the most effective lobbying body representing our Senior Citizens and they need you. The NCSC has dedicated themselves to winning better Social Security benefits, tax relief for elderly homeowners and many other important pieces of legislation which will make for a better life for all older Americans.

Membership in the NCSC will keep you informed and bring you more satisfaction in the years ahead. The 1970 International Convention was wise in its deliberations when it encouraged affiliation with the National Council of Senior Citizens.

Best wishes.

Fraternally yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles H. Pillard".

Charles H. Pillard
International President