



A brief history of our union

1943: It was the middle of World War II; folks weren't thinking about funding public services. There were NO health care benefits and NO pensions for state workers, so they formed the Maine State Employees Association (MSEA) to advocate for public services and fair treatment for public workers.

1970s: Public workers across the nation, including Maine, won the right to negotiate with management over their wages, benefits and working conditions. This process is known as collective bargaining.

1989: For a stronger voice at work and representation at the national level, MSEA members voted to affiliate with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), a 2 million member union representing workers across our nation. We thus are known as MSEA-SEIU Local 1989.

