



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL SCIENTISTS

MEDIA ADVISORY

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State Scientists Rallying to Demand Gov. Gavin Newsom Bargain Equitable Wages *Union’s planned Aug. 23 Value Scientists! Rally in Oakland will demand governor close extreme pay gap*

OAKLAND – The **California Association of Professional Scientists (CAPS)** on Wednesday will **hold a Value Scientists! Rally** in Oakland to demand equitable wages for the **4,200 rank-and-file state scientists** the union represents.

CAPS’ last labor agreement **expired in July 2020**. (Under state law, the terms of the expired contract remain in effect until a successor agreement is in place.) **Salaries remain a sticking point**. State scientists’ **wages have lagged** those of their managers, supervisors and state engineers **by 30% or more** for a decade.

On May 9, CAPS offered a solution that would provide pay equity for its members. The **Department of Human Resources (CalHR)**, which represents **Gov. Gavin Newsom** at the bargaining table, **has yet to respond**.

The union and the administration have until **early September** to reach an agreement in time for lawmakers to pass funding for a new contract before their legislative session ends on Sept. 14. The Legislature won’t reconvene until January 2024.

CAPS’ Scientists! Rally in Oakland will run **Wednesday from noon to 1 p.m.** at **Frank Ogawa Plaza**, located at Broadway and 14th St. in **Oakland**. The union has planned a **Sacramento march** from CalHR Headquarters to the West Steps of the State Capitol for a **rally on Aug. 30**.

Visuals at the Oakland rally will include **pickets and interview opportunities** among **at least 200 rank-and-file state scientists** who perform vital services for California residents, such as protecting public health, the environment, and our food supply.

Who:	Hundreds of California Association of Professional Scientists members and leaders
What:	CAPS Value Scientists! Rally
Where:	Frank Ogawa Plaza Broadway and 14 th St., Oakland
When:	Wednesday, August 23, noon to 1 p.m.
Why:	To publicly urge Gov. Gavin Newsom to end severe pay inequities endured by California state scientists for many years.

ABOUT CAPS

CAPS represents roughly 5,600 state-employed scientists (including 4,200 rank and file and 1,400 supervisors and managers) working in over 30 state departments in 81 scientific classifications. CAPS members protect Californians from life-threatening diseases; safeguard our wildlife and abundant natural resources; and protect our food supply, air and water from toxic waste and pollution. Follow on X.com and Instagram: @capsscientists.