

# ***DC 37 SAFETY & HEALTH ALERT***

## **Mandatory Flu Shots Suspended**

On Thursday, October 22, 2009, Governor David Paterson announced that the NYS Department of Health's requirement that healthcare and other hospital and clinic workers be vaccinated for seasonal and H1N1 influenza has been suspended.

Intense pressure from unions and others played a significant role in turning this issue around. In addition the heads of the Centers for Disease Control and Health and Human Services have made statements against mandatory influenza vaccination of healthcare workers.

It is expected that healthcare institutions will continue to offer both seasonal and H1N1 influenza vaccinations to employees when available, but on a voluntary basis.

District Council 37 supports influenza vaccination as part of a comprehensive program to protect workers against infection, but is strongly opposed to mandating that workers be vaccinated.

**For more information please contact that  
DC 37 Safety and Health Department at 212-815-1685.**