

# CHICAGO TEAMSTERS JOINT COUNCIL 25



## NEWS»

### TEAMSTERS SAY TO BEARS FANS: MILLERCOORS WANTS CHICAGO TO LOSE

#### Local 325 Members Reject Destruction of Health Care Guarantees

Members of Teamsters Local 325 in Rockford protested at Sunday's Chicago Bears game at Soldier's Field in opposition to plans by MillerCoors' largest distributor in Illinois, Hayes Beer Distributing Company, to destroy any guarantees of health care coverage.

Nearly a year ago, the drivers, merchandisers and helpers at the MillerCoors distributor in Rockford voted to join the Teamsters Union. Since then, they have been retaliated against by having money taken out of their paychecks in violation of federal law. Hayes is also trying to impose on its workers a contract that refuses any guarantee of health care coverage.

Teamster members distributed leaflets to Bears fans and an airplane circled overhead towing a banner that read, "Miller Wants Chicago to Lose."

"Bears fans have made Miller the number one beer in Chicago," said Jeff Porter, Secretary-Treasurer of Local 325. "So you'd think Miller would want to treat the hardworking people of Illinois who deliver Miller beer with the respect they deserve."

"We work hard to service local businesses so we can support our families," said Jim Stilson, a driver with Hayes Beer Distributing. "We just want the community to know that Illinois families are having their health care coverage threatened. Destroying my health care guarantees destroys community standards. MillerCoors needs to make sure it lives up to those standards."

"Forcing employees into a health care plan with no guarantees is irresponsible," said Porter. "The loss of health coverage could easily bankrupt a family and we won't stand for that."

The employees of Hayes Beer Distributing distribute MillerCoors beer brands to the Rockford metropolitan area, the Chicago suburbs and northern Illinois. The Teamsters Brewery and Soft Drink Workers Conference also represents more than 1,200 employees of MillerCoors breweries in the United States and Canada.

The conference is part of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, which was founded in 1903 and represents 1.4 million hardworking men and women in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico.