

## **Coalition of Black Trade Unionists Steps up for PLCB Workers & Opposes Corbett's Privatization Scheme**

PHILADELPHIA (FEB. 5, 2013) The Southeastern Pennsylvania and Greater Philadelphia Chapter of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) adamantly opposes Gov. Corbett's flawed scheme to shut down the PLCB and put 5,000 Pennsylvania workers on the unemployment line.

"You should not play politics with peoples' livelihoods for the sake of scoring some political points," said Gwen Johnson, head of CBTU's Philadelphia Chapter. "The governor callously wants to throw 5,000 of our fellow citizens out of work so that big-box retailers can have a nice payday. It makes absolutely no sense."

CBTU is dedicated to improve economic development and employment opportunities for black workers and is a powerful voice in organized labor. One of every five black workers (20%) belongs to a union, and black union members earn 40 percent more than do non-union black workers.

Johnson noted that the governor's plan to create between 20,000 and 30,000 retail liquor outlets jeopardizes public health and safety in every community in the state.

"Our members will be very active in this debate and we plan on working with all of the trades to make sure that this plan is derailed," Johnson added. "The PLCB is a valuable publicly-owned asset and it should remain a public asset. Gov. Corbett needs to focus on important issues confronting our state, like education, transportation funding and creating jobs."

For more information, please visit [www.cbtuphila.org](http://www.cbtuphila.org).