



Shrink Government— Budget Shrinks



With two months left in the General Assembly (June 4, 2003) to approve a state budget, it is anticipated that a Special Session of the General Assembly will be called into order on June 5, 2003 and go as long as September before passing a state budget.

The Governor is taking steps to reduce state services and the number of state workers. He intends to privatize services, not to benefit the tax payers but the private companies that will be awarded these contracts, and laying the groundwork for a future job after he is out of office in 2007.

The Handwriting Is On The Wall

Due to the retirement incentive involving 11,000 eligible unionized and managerial state workers, it is possible that 7,000 workers will leave by June 1st. Add in over 3,500 workers already laid off and the state work force is reduced by 25%. **The Governor has told agencies hardly any of the vacancies will be filled—PERIOD.**

Status of Current Negotiations

There have not been any meetings with the Governor or his designees since February 1st. Contrary to what the Governor has stated on the radio, television and in the newspapers regarding a settlement, when his designees were contacted they said there is no reason to meet.

Below is a synopsis of SEBAC's proposal for settlement as of February 1st when the last talks were held:

- All laid off members return immediately.
- Extend current contract 2 years to June 2007 with 3% raises and A.I.'s in each year.
- Job security through June 2007. Reminder: The next Gubernatorial Election is November 2006.
- All of our members going without a wage increase or increment for an entire year, with future increases delayed by 9 months in the following year, and a total of 31 months of lost wage increases and increments.
- Changes in the state's prescription drug program assuring a much greater use of generic drugs immediately, and accepting an increase in co-pays in the future.
- Preventing new enrollments in the state's most expensive health plan.
- Re-computing premium shares for singles on managed care.
- Allowing pharmacy co-pays to increase in July of 2007.
- Requiring 3 unpaid furlough days or unpaid holidays immediately.
- An early retirement program.
- Agreement with the administration's suggestion to allow over \$150 million in pension fund deferrals.
- Voluntary schedule reductions, which the administration costed as saving nearly \$16 million dollars over the next 2 ½ years.

Meetings Are Being Held

Union leaders have been meeting weekly with Republican and Democratic representatives and senators to explain and answer questions regarding the SEBAC proposal.

2003 Picnics

CEUI extends an invitation to its **active** and **retired** members to attend one of the Union's four regional picnics. **THIS FUNCTION IS FOR MEMBERS ONLY.** The picnics start at 12:30 and end at 5:30 p.m. Listed below are the dates and locations of this year's picnics:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| • Friday May 30, 2003 | Mansfield/Willimantic | Franco American Club |
| • Friday June 6, 2003 | Bridgeport/Stratford | Booth Memorial Park |
| • Friday June 20, 2003 | Waterbury | Lake Quassapaug |
| • Thursday July 3, 2003 | East Hampton | East Hampton Firemen's Grounds |

Members can attend any of these picnics. We look forward to seeing you there! *No solicitation allowed!*

AFL-CIO Workers' Memorial Day

Please join us on April 28th at Washington Park in Groton, in memory of those workers who were killed, injured and diseased on the job throughout the year. This event begins at 6:00 am, rain or shine.

Directions: From 95 North, travel over Gold Star Bridge; stay in right lane. Take exit 85 and bear right, stay in middle lane. Continue straight through two lights. At the third light, take a left onto Meridian Street. Workers' Memorial will be the third driveway on the right.

LONGEVITY PAYMENTS PAID IN APRIL

Longevity payments will be paid in the April 17, 2003 paycheck. Maintenance employees who have completed ten (10) full years or more of State service are eligible to receive longevity payments. These are paid in the last check issued at the end of April and October of each year for those employees with the qualifying length of service as of April 1 and October 1 respectively, and who are on the active payroll on those respective dates. Employees on leave without pay on these dates cannot be issued a longevity check until they return to work. Employees who terminate before these dates are not eligible for longevity payments, except that retiring employees are allowed a prorated longevity payment based on service from the preceding payment date to their retirement date, and such payments are payable shortly after retirement. The longevity check is based on the salary grade of the particular employee and length of service as of the most recent April 1st or October 1st. The table at right shows the schedule of longevity payments.

Salary Group	10 Years	15 Years	20 Years	25 Years
1-11	75.00	150.00	225.00	300.00
12	75.25	150.50	225.75	301.00
13	92.00	184.00	276.00	368.00
14	94.75	189.50	284.25	379.00
15	97.50	195.00	292.50	390.00
16	100.50	201.00	301.50	402.00
17	103.25	206.50	309.75	413.00
18	106.00	212.00	318.00	424.00
19	109.00	218.00	327.00	436.00
20	111.75	223.50	335.25	447.00
21	114.75	229.50	344.25	459.00
22	136.25	272.50	408.75	545.00
23	142.00	284.00	426.00	568.00
24	147.75	295.50	443.25	591.00
25	153.25	306.50	459.75	613.00
26	159.00	318.00	477.00	636.00
27	164.50	329.00	493.50	658.00
28	170.25	340.50	510.75	681.00
29	187.50	375.00	562.50	750.00
30	193.00	386.00	579.00	772.00

MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

The statewide May Membership Meetings have been scheduled. **We encourage active as well as retired CEUI members to attend these important meetings.**

Members should plan to attend to get the latest information regarding the state budget, layoffs, early retirement and health insurance.

The dates, times and places of the meetings are as follows:

Sunday, May 4

UCONN, Storrs, St. Thomas Aquinas Center 2:00pm

Monday, May 5

CEUI HQ, Middletown 7:30pm

Tuesday, May 6

Gateway Community College, New Haven 7:30pm

Wednesday, May 7

Oliver Wolcott Tech, Torrington 4:30pm

Kaynor Tech, Waterbury 7:30pm

Thursday, May 8

DAS Fleet Garage, 190 Huyshope Ave., Hartford 12:00pm

UCONN, Storrs, St. Thomas Aquinas Center 3:30pm

Yantic Firehouse, Norwich 7:30pm



Remember—Mothers Day is Sunday, May 11th—the last day you'd want to forget!!

