



State Employees Bargaining Agent Coalition

- AFT Connecticut
- American Association of University Professors – Connecticut State University
- American Association of University Professors – UCONN
- American Federation of State, County, & Municipal Employees - Council 4
- Congress of Connecticut Community Colleges/ SEIU Local 1973
- Connecticut Association of Prosecutors
- Connecticut Employees Union Independent/ SEIU Local 511
- Connecticut Federations of School Administrators Local 61
- Connecticut Police and Fire Union/IAFF-IUPA
- Connecticut State Police Union
- CSEA SEIU Local 2001
- International Brotherhood of Police Officers/SEIU Local 731
- New England Healthcare Employees Union, District 1199/SEIU

# The State Employees Bargaining Agent Coalition

## SEBAC Comments on Governor’s “Plan B” Statement March 31, 2011

There has been a lot of discussion recently about the Malloy administration’s “Plan B”: what the governor will do, or propose to do, in the event that “savings and concessions” discussions between the Malloy administration and Union leaders do not produce an agreement that can be brought to members for ratification.

The administration recently told several media outlets that that absent an agreement with the State Employee Bargaining Agent Coalition (SEBAC), his budget options could turn “ugly and nasty,” with many layoffs and additional service cuts.

The budget deficit, of course is real – about \$7 billion projected in the next two years. And the often repeated notion of “shared sacrifice” makes sense. **But true shared sacrifice means a budget which does not ask so little from the very rich and the biggest corporations, and so much from struggling middle class families –** whether it is all middle class families who would see unfair tax increases like the loss of the property tax credit, or particularly the middle class families who happen to work for the State of Connecticut.

Of course it makes sense that the budget should finally include the savings ideas from front-line service workers that have been ignored in some cases for decades. But it doesn’t make sense to balance the budget on the backs of working and middle class families who are struggling like all other middle class families in an economy that seems designed to produce safety and comfort only for the very rich. And it doesn’t make sense to threaten critical public services and the very public structures that will help turn Connecticut’s struggling economy around.

**Ultimately, any changes in wages or benefits that come out of current discussions with the Malloy administration will be up to the members to decide.** Should there ever be a proposed agreement to consider, our members will vote, as they always have, not out of narrow self-interest, but based upon the principles of fairness and justice that have always guided them, and out of concern for the public that depends upon them. Should “Plan B” occur, our members will fight not just to defend themselves, but to defend all working and middle class families.

**These are tough times for everyone. Connecticut’s people deserve better than “Plan B.”**

They deserve a state that works together with its employees to turn our economic budget crisis around, and they deserve a budget premised on a fair contribution from everyone, including the privileged few who can afford to help so much. With patience, hard work, and mutual respect, we’ll get there.

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