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Legislative Session Update

Stay connected to your legislators

NSEA's team of lobbyists continues to be in Carson City working for you each and every day. The team, comprised of leaders from all around the state that members like you have elected to represent them, meet on a daily basis with lawmakers, attend hearings, and advocate on your behalf. They are also on this team with staff employees experienced in lobbying the Nevada Legislature.

This session, almost half way over, has been a challenging one as the governor has proposed drastic and irresponsible cuts to the education budget. Additionally, the Lobby Team is tracking nearly 200 bills, including a number of policy issues that impact your profession.

AB 391—Educator Bill of Rights—ensures that a school employee has certain rights with regard to matters involving the discussion of that employee's conduct, performance, employment status, discipline or transfer. This bill provides rights if the employee has a complaint or concern about working conditions. **NSEA SUPPORTS AB 391.**

IP 1—Raises the room tax on hotels in Clark and Washoe County by as much as 3 percent. Starting in 2011, all the money raised from this increased tax will go directly to education. The measure passed both houses of the legislature and became law early this month. **NSEA SUPPORTS IP 1.**

PERS—There are a number of measures impacting the Public Employee Retirement System—your retirement. Most of the changes you can expect will affect only new employees and include lowering the multiplier and increasing the years of service before retirement. The NSEA Lobby Team is weighing each of the many measures carefully and will not support anything that makes negative changes to current employees or any measure that would change the system from a defined contribution to a defined benefit.

(For a complete list of bills, log on to www.nsea-nv.org/LAC.htm)

The legislative session is a long way from over—education budgets have not been finalized and won't be for many weeks. It's the position of your Lobby Team to protect the contract and fight hard to fully fund salary increases, including step increases. **Don't make any concessions or agreements with your contract until the Legislative Session is over and you know exactly what is in the budget.**

We look forward to a productive session as we work to preserve the education budget and fight bad legislation that impacts our profession. We're confident our presence, and your support, will get us the results we're looking for—\$ay NO to Education Cuts!

If you have any questions regarding the Legislative Session please feel free to contact UCN President Gaylea Manning: gaylea.manning@lycos.com, NSEA President Lynn Warne: lynn.warne@nsea-nv.org, or NSEA Government Relations Director Julie Whitacre: julie.whitacre@nsea-nv.org.

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