



## **For Immediate Release**

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# **State Employees Announce Vote To Affirm Labor Cost Savings Agreement With The Malloy Administration**

Agreement Will Save The State of Connecticut \$24,000,000,000 In Coming Years.

HARTFORD: State Employees gathered in Hartford at the CSEA Union Hall Tuesday to announce that union members have voted to affirm the concession agreement between State employees and the Malloy administration by a vote of 83% to 17%. Independent analyses by the actuarial firms Cavanaugh McDonald and Segal Consulting affirm that this agreement will save the State of Connecticut \$24 billion dollars in the coming years.

*"There's a lot to take away from the ratification of our labor cost savings agreement," said Ivonne Hamm, RN, a nurse in the Electro Convulsive Therapy Department at UConn Health. "I think the biggest is that we have demonstrated that collective bargaining works. State employees have once again shown that the way out of our economic challenges isn't to sideline working people," added Hamm.*

*"While State Employees are not the cause of the revenue shortfall driving Connecticut's budget deficit, we have agreed to step up and help solve it," said state education consultant, Agnes Quinones. "We felt it was a necessary sacrifice to protect the important services that we dedicate our lives to. This is a sacrifice being made predominantly by middle-class families, and it is a sacrifice that to-date has not been asked of, nor offered by the wealthy or corporations in this state. There are those who have criticized this plan as not being harmful enough to the state workers. What those critics fail to understand is that the best agreements are not measured by how much pain they cause but by how much good they do, and this agreement gets our state's financial situation to a much better place than we would be in otherwise."*

*"My fellow correctional employees and I came together through the collective bargaining process and made a significant sacrifice," said Sean Howard, a corrections officer working at Cheshire Correctional Institution. "We supported the SEBAC agreement because it allows us to keep doing the job we came to do – which is to protect the safety of staff, inmates and our communities. Here's the bottom line: State employees once again stepped up to do our part for the greater good. We hope and expect our legislators will do the same."*

*"State workers who provide invaluable services to our communities just saved the state \$1.56 billion over the next two years. Meanwhile closing the carried interest tax loophole would generate \$550 million in savings. Another \$500 million in revenue could be generated by increasing the capital gains tax rate and taxes on the most wealthy. Those policies deserves as much attention from legislators who were seeking savings from middle class workers," Darnell Ford, worker at the Department of Children and Families.*

Now it's time for the General Assembly to do its work, approve this agreement, and pass a budget that protects the important public services working families have sacrificed to protect.

*The State Employees Bargaining Agent Coalition (SEBAC) serves to unite all 15 unions representing approximately 40,000 Connecticut State public service workers together to address issues of common concern.*

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