



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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Dear AFSCME Activist:

The Iowa Legislature is considering a bill that creates an early retirement program for state workers-, SSB 3002 (the number will change shortly). This bill will allow state workers who meet the qualifications under the bill to take early retirement.

The bill is being re-written after a Tuesday afternoon subcommittee in the Senate and will include the following provisions in the Senate bill:

- ✓ Paid Health Insurance in some form
- ✓ Incentive payout of 1,000/year to a maximum of 25,000 paid out over a five year period. You must have 10 years employment to qualify.
- ✓ Employees accepting the program cannot come back into the employment of the state even as consultants
- ✓ All Executive Branch employees will be covered - including all stated elected office employees. Courts and Regents will be allowed to opt in if they choose.
- ✓ **Stay tuned for more details later**

## **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Please call your Legislator and tell them to vote for an early retirement bill for state workers. This will allow workers to leave with dignity and will save the state money which can be used to provide critical services.

**Here are additional messages you can use when you call or email:**

- **It is a fact that younger workers cost less money to the state's payroll because they are at the bottom of their pay scales. By allowing those older workers who want to retire to have that option, we're saving the state money and saving jobs.**
- **This is a long term cost cutting strategy as well – we'll see immediate savings in the short term that will avoid painful cuts and job losses, but we'll also realize savings for years to come.**

You can reach your State Representative or Senator by calling the Capitol switchboard at  
515-281-3221

Or

Email your State Representative at [first.name.last.name@legis.state.ia.us](mailto:first.name.last.name@legis.state.ia.us)

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### **REMINDER!!! - AFSCME LOBBY DAY:**

**Feb 17, 2010, 9:00 AM**

**Embassy Suites on the River, 101 E. Locust St. Des Moines**

Transportation has been arranged to take you to the Capitol and back to Embassy suites where we will conclude our day. Please RSVP to [nvanderlinden@afscmeiowa.org](mailto:nvanderlinden@afscmeiowa.org) to let us know you're attending.