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**AFSCME Iowa Council 61 President Danny Homan Statement on
Announced Cuts to Judicial Branch**

“I am extremely disappointed by developments announced today that the Iowa Supreme Court will be laying off over one hundred state workers without consulting with AFSCME Iowa Council 61 about their plans. This week we also learned that judicial branch will be requiring ten furlough days from its employees.

In general state government, we have been working very hard to make sure that AFSCME members have had an opportunity to make their own choices to avoid layoffs and cuts to their departments. We had hoped to have the same opportunity to work with all branches of government in much the same way. AFSCME Iowa Council 61 has always been willing to sit down with the Judicial Branch, and I and other AFSCME members are disappointed we weren't given that opportunity.

The legal community, AFSCME Iowa Council 61, and the courts system helped develop an out-of the box solution to stop serious cuts to services and employees in FY09. We hope that the court administration again can look for other solutions to avoid layoffs, furlough days, and cuts to services. The basis for having a Union in a workplace is so that employees have the option of controlling their own destiny, and I am disappointed that has not happened.”

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