

July 31, 2009



NO STATE BUDGET



BATTLE CONTINUES FOR A FAIR STATE BUDGET

Democratic leadership in the Connecticut State House of Representatives and the State Senate continue to battle with the Rell administration over a fair budget. Rell insists that public services that are vital to the people of Connecticut must be cut and a fair & progressive tax structure is out of the question. Democrats, who have already made cuts in their proposed budget, are proposing small increases to income taxes on higher income earners and profitable large corporations to raise revenue and protect public services. Several times Rell has said this needs to be a shared sacrifice, however she continues to protect her wealthy friends and big businesses from paying their fair share. Please contact the Governor and your legislators at the following numbers. Have your friends and family do the same.

Governor's office: 800-406-1527,

Email : Governor.Rell@ct.gov

State Senate: Democrats: 800-842-1420

Republicans: 800-842-1421

State House: Democrats: 800-842-8267

Republicans: 800-842-8270

Tell them you support a fair and progressive tax structure to protect public services. No more cuts to state services!

If you need help or do not know your State Representative or Senator, please contact CEUI Political Director Jim Vigue at 800-622-3359, ext. 736 or via email at jvigie@ceui.org.

CEUI IN-SERVICE COURSES

The NP-2 In-Service Course catalog is available online at the Union website www.ceui.org. The catalog is also available at agencies. The registration deadline for applications is August 28, 2009. Some agencies may have earlier deadlines in order to process the applications in time. If you have any questions about the courses or the registration process, please contact Loyola Welsh, Education Director, at 860-343-8721 or 800-622-3359, ext. 721 or by email at lwelsh@ceui.org

CEUI is always looking for ways to improve the course offerings. We are now in the planning stage for the Spring 2010 courses and your ideas are welcome. Again, contact Loyola with your suggestions.

AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2009 MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

The seven statewide September membership meetings have been scheduled. **We encourage active as well as retired CEUI members to attend** these important meetings. Remember: your attendance at these meetings guarantees you the most up-to-date information on issues affecting you and your family. Please plan to attend. The dates, times and places of the meetings are as follows:

Monday, August 31

Oliver Wolcott Tech, Torrington, 4:30pm

Naugatuck Valley CTC, Waterbury, 7:00pm

Tuesday, September 1

DPW Trade Shop, 309 Buckingham St., Hartford, noon

UConn, Storrs, St. Thomas Aquinas, 4:00pm

Yantic Firehouse, Norwich, 7:00pm

Wednesday, September 2

Gateway Comm. College, New Haven, 7:00pm

Thursday, September 3

CEUI HQ, Middletown, 7:00pm

CALL TO CONVENTION

Union Secretary/Treasurer Leslie Maddocks has issued a call for the CEUI Convention on October 2, 2009. The Convention will be held in Middletown at the Falcon's Pavilion. Delegates to the convention will be selected at the August/September membership meetings. If you are interested in being a delegate, be sure to attend one of the membership meetings listed above.

RIP RETIREES MAY NOT GET A CHECK IN JULY

The State Retirement Division has informed 1,700 recent retirees who took the retirement incentive that they will not see a check in July. They will receive a two month check in August. This is due to the Governors unrealistic expectation to complete the incentive program in two months and the Retirement Division of the State Comptroller not having adequate staffing to complete the work. This office of hard working state workers has been understaffed since the 2003 ERIP.

SHOE MONEY PAYMENTS IN JULY

For members whose agencies require them to wear safety shoes:

Effective July 1, 2009 the Safety Shoe allowance provided under Article 19 (Safety) shall be \$135.

Eligible members should have received this payment in July. If you have not, please contact Cara Wachsmann at 860-343-8719.

UNION STEWARD ELECTIONS

Per the CEUI by-laws, Union stewards are elected every 4 years. This year, in late October and early November, elections will be held for CEUI stewards at worksites state wide. Nomination forms will be posted at the worksite at least 10 days prior to the election.

HEALTHCARE CHANGES Effective July 1, 2009

These changes are only for active employees and those who retire after 7-1-2009.

Prescription co-pays

- Tier 1 : \$ 5.00 co-pay for generic
- Tier 2 : \$10.00 co-pay for preferred name brand
- Tier 3 : \$ 25.00 co-pay for non-preferred name brand drugs (only 15% of all drugs)

There is a 90 day phase-in period from 7-1-09 to allow a user of a non-preferred name brand drug to change or have the doctor submit a medical report to continue using the non-preferred drug at the \$10.00 co-pay. If the doctor states that there is a medical reason to take a preferred name brand drug you will pay the lower tier co-pay.

For maintenance drugs (taken every day over a long period) have your doctor write the prescription for a 90 day supply, and you will save with one co-pay.

Doctors office co-pays decrease

- Continued free well child care
- Adult routine physical exams per carrier/plan decrease to \$ 5.00
- Routine gynecological exams, including pap smear test per carrier/plan decrease to \$5.00

If you have questions please call CEUI staff rep George Spurlock 860-344-0311, ext. 722.