



LEGISLATIVE *Update*

State Employees Association of North Carolina • www.seanc.org

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Senate Bill 13 Advances to Help Close Budget Deficit with Corporate Welfare Funds

To help solve the state's \$3.7 billion budget deficit this week, Senate Republicans advanced a measure (SB 13) to provide Gov. Bev Perdue with the power to make \$400 million in cuts for the current budget year. Republicans also made a move that could help save state employee jobs and public services by diverting \$142 million in unused money from nearly 20 different funds, including the state's tobacco settlement and the corporate welfare piggy bank known as the One North Carolina Fund into SB 13.

Before moving to the Senate floor, SB 13 was debated in Senate Appropriations Committee where SEANC Legislative Affairs Director Ardis Watkins spoke in favor of the bill, "Those against this bill say they speak in favor of jobs. State jobs are jobs too. It is time for politicians to stop looking at state employees to bear the brunt of a budget crisis they did not create."

SEANC believes the state should end corporate tax giveaways before a single quality public service is cut. The move to take unspent corporate welfare funds is a move in the right direction.

Senate leader Phil Berger held a press conference in which he mentioned that state employee layoffs and other benefit reductions are on the table to help solve the budget crisis. SEANC members have better ideas that will save the state money, keep our quality public services and protect the people who provide them. This month SEANC will release the Save Our State report, which contains details on how lawmakers can close the budget gap and fight for a fair economy for all North Carolinians.

Join us on Jones Street as a SEANC Warrior! Warriors attend legislative sessions wearing their SEANC blue to remind leaders that state employees are the people who keep our neighborhoods safe, build roads and take care of citizens in need.

If you would like to become a SEANC Warrior or submit your ideas to "Save Our State", please email Tony Booe at tbooe@seanc.org or call 800-222-2758.

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