



LEGISLATIVE *Update*

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

P.O. Drawer 27727 • Raleigh, NC 27611 • 888-732-6242/919-833-1616 (Press 1)

March 18, 2011

Lobby Day and March Madness in the General Assembly Senate Bill 344 – An attack on your constitutional rights

On Wednesday, a large group of SEANC members marched into the General Assembly for Eastern Lobby Day. Meetings with legislators took place all morning to talk about passing a common-sense budget that maintains quality public services. This group from the eastern districts was first to participate – but there's more to come! [Central Lobby Day](#) is coming up on Wednesday, March 23 and [Western Lobby Day](#) is coming up on Wednesday, March 30. Sign up for either event at www.seanc.org.

Our SEANC members from the east did a tremendous job making the concerns of their fellow state employees and retirees known to legislators. The day started with a briefing on the issues from SEANC Executive Director Dana Cope. Afterward, members split up into smaller groups and went to meetings with their representatives. Between scheduled meetings, these hard working members also caught different legislative leaders in the hallways and had discussions with them about the State Health Plan, the Retirement System, Gov. Perdue's proposed job cuts and other issues of concern.

The regional lobby day events are a part of SEANC's "[Take Pride in Carolina](#)" campaign. SEANC already presented the governor and all members of the General Assembly our "[Take Pride in Carolina](#)" [report](#) outlining over \$10 billion in savings that would fill the budget deficit several times over while still maintaining quality public services and the men and women who provide them. Now, we need your help in continuing to push these budget-saving ideas.

In addition to the lobby day events, SEANC is holding three hometown rallies across the state in support of the "[Take Pride in Carolina](#)" campaign. Join us in [Morganton](#) on Saturday, April 9, in [Greenville](#) on Saturday, April 16 and finally in [Raleigh](#) on Saturday, April 30. Any member from any region can come to these rallies or lobby day events. We are all standing together on behalf of North Carolina's working families!

March madness isn't just on the court this week, it's also in the legislature. [Senate Bill 344](#) was filed this week by Sens. [Debbie Clary](#), [Tommy Tucker](#) and [Thom Goolsby](#). SB 344 seeks access to state employee personnel records, including content that would describe reasons for an employee's demotion, suspension or separation from their position.

SEANC lobbyists are speaking out against SB 344. The measure simply goes against your constitutional rights. There is a federal court case from the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals which upholds an employee's right to due process when personnel records are released prior to the employee's opportunity to appeal has passed. Clearing one's name is a process that can take anywhere from 2-5 years, but this bill would make any derogatory statements made by a supervisor about an employee immediately available.

Call your legislator today and tell them that SB 344 violates your 14th amendment rights! It's a slam dunk that SEANC will be there fighting every day on your behalf against this and any other piece of legislation that may violate your rights.