



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)

May 13, 2011

State Health Plan Reform Bill Clears General Assembly *Senate Budget Aims to Restore University Funds*

State Health Plan

Last week we reported to you that the Senate passed [SB 323](#), the latest version of the State Health Plan (SHP) reform bill. This Tuesday, the House passed SB 323 as well. This means that the SHP reform bill will now be sent to Gov. Beverly Perdue for her signature.

This bill would move oversight of the SHP out of the General Assembly and into the Treasurer's office. It would also set into place a system where state employees and retirees have half of the seats on the board of trustees. This means that for the first time ever, state employees will have greater input in determining future health care benefits. Getting the SHP out of the General Assembly is [SEANC's No. 1 legislative priority](#).

At this point the governor has not said if she will sign or veto the bill.

Senate Budget

The House passed its budget last week and the Senate quickly began working on their version.

The key difference so far is in education spending. The Senate has indicated an intention to make further cuts to K-12 education while restoring some of the cuts made to the UNC System in the House budget.

SEANC will closely monitor developments in the Senate budget and advocate for state employee jobs and benefits. SEANC lobbyists are working with Senate Appropriations subcommittees to stay current on budget projections. We will keep members posted as negotiations move forward.

SEANC Warriors

The best way to influence budget policy or any other legislative policy is to let your lawmakers hear directly from you. Our office is available to help you lobby in the General Assembly on Monday nights or anytime you can join us.

If you are interested in grassroots lobbying or if you hear a rumor about your agency or department, please contact [Tony Booe](#) in SEANC's Legislative Affairs Department.