

For Release:

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Response to Threats of Deeper Service Cuts and Further Layoffs

Leaders of unions in the State Employees Bargaining Agent Coalition (SEBAC) made the following remarks today in response to Governor Dannel P. Malloy's call for further public service cuts and workforce layoffs:

"Laying off thousands of state employees not only denies people the essential services they need; it damages Connecticut's economy," said Merisa Williams, a secretary at Western Connecticut State University (WCSU) in Danbury. "It leads to more budget shortfalls in the future, continuing a race to the bottom for our state's quality of life. According to Nobel Prize-winning economists, the governor's plan to reduce public spending will lead to 4,000 to 5,000 additional layoffs in the private sector. We could avoid all of this by asking the 1% to pay their fair share like the rest of us do," added Williams, a member of Council 4 AFSCME Local 562.

"It's time to stop with the false assumption that working people are the only ones who should step up to protect and preserve our quality of life," said AFT Connecticut President Jan Hochadel. "The reality is that Connecticut has a fairness problem. State workers have given back at 30 times the rate as CEOs and hedge fund managers. All working families contribute taxes at nearly twice the rate that that millionaires and billionaires do to fund vital services," added Hochadel, who taught physics and science in the Connecticut State Technical High School System (CTHSS).

"State employees are one of the most important resources that the state of Connecticut has," said Agnes Quiñones, who works in the Bureau of Health, Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education in the state's education department. "We want our state to be successful. But Governor Malloy's proposal to balance the budget at our expense, diminish or reduce state services and lay off thousands of employees will hurt both our economy and our most vulnerable residents," added Quiñones, the president of the P-3A Council in CSEA/SEIU Local 2001.

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The State Employees Bargaining Agent Coalition (SEBAC) unites all 16 unions representing 45,000 Connecticut state public service workers together to address important issues to all its members and the people they serve.

Attached --

OPM Undersecretary of Labor Relations March 8 Letter to Select Union Leaders

- > Administrative & Residual Union Local 4200/AFT
- > AFT Connecticut
- > American Association of University Professors – Connecticut State University
- > American Association of University Professors – UCONN
- > American Federation of State, County, & Municipal Employees - Council 4
- > Congress of Connecticut Community Colleges/ SEIU Local 1973
- > Connecticut Association of Prosecutors
- > Connecticut Employees Union Independent/ SEIU Local 511
- > Connecticut Federations of School Administrators Local 61
- > Connecticut Police and Fire Union/IAFF-IUPA
- > Connecticut State Police Union
- > CSEA SEIU Local 2001
- > International Brotherhood of Police Officers/SEIU Local 731
- > Judicial Professional Employees Union, AFT Local 4200-B
- > New England Healthcare Employees Union, District 1199/SEIU
- > UCHC – American Association of University Professors





STATE OF CONNECTICUT
OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT
OFFICE OF LABOR RELATIONS

Sent via Email and US Mail

March 8, 2016

Sal Luciano AFSCME	John DiSette A&R	Ron McLellan CEUI	Glen Terlecki CPFU
Dave Glidden CSEA	Andrew Matthews CSPU	David Pickus District 1199	

Gentlemen:

OPM has directed agencies to submit an organizational plan to reduce the scope of programming necessary to operate within the level of resources anticipated for FY 17. We anticipate that there will be labor force impacts resulting from such organizational changes. These may include reductions in force.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Lisa Grasso Egan

Undersecretary for Labor Relations

Cc: Benjamin Barnes – OPM Secretary
Brian Durand – Chief of Staff
Susan Weisselberg – OPM Deputy Secretary
Paul Potamianos – Executive Budget Officer
Melody Currey – DAS Commissioner
Nicholas Hermes – Director Statewide Human Resources