



The Capitol Reporter

APRIL 2, 2009

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2009 LEGISLATURE

www.nsea-nv.org

Important Dates

April 13, 2009
WEA Legislative Rally in
Carson City, 11:30 a.m.

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Your Immediate Action Needed!

Changes to EMRB Proceedings Proposed

AB 409 to be heard Friday

The EMRB bill (AB 409) requires the Employee Management Relations Board (EMRB) to no longer hear employee/employer-related complaints in the manner which they currently do. Instead of the presentation and determination of any disagreement to be presented in front of the EMRB, it is proposed the claim is sent to a hearings officer from Hearings Division of the Department of Administration. The Hearings Officer must be an attorney familiar with the issues at hand. The Hearings Officer is required to hear the complaint within 30 days after the EMRB notifies them of the complaint. The Board is then to take the Officer's findings and either accepts the Hearing officer's decision or rejects it and sends it back for further review.

The purpose of the bill is to ensure due process for all involved and to streamline the current decision-making process. At times, the EMRB has taken several years to complete their rulings and many of them did not follow previous precedent taken by previous rulings of the EMRB. AB 409 will make the process more succinct, be more cost effective, and will be reviewed by an experienced hearings officer to ensure a fair and balanced approach to employer/employee disagreements.

Please contact your legislators and urge them to support AB 409. Go to <http://capwiz.com/nea/nv/state/main/?state=NV> to contact them today.

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Legislators Begin to Close Some Budgets

Make your voice heard

Lawmakers are looking to begin closing some budgets, particularly retirement benefits, health care benefits, and salaries. While decisions have not yet been made, the discussions are taking place.

We urge you to contact your legislators and tell them that balancing the budget on the backs of teachers and support professionals is irresponsible. Go to <http://capwiz.com/nea/nv/state/main/?state=NV> and contact your lawmakers today!

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Changes to the Public Employee Retirement System Proposed

SB 367 to be heard Friday

The governor, backed by the SAGE Commission's recommendations, has proposed significant changes to PERS—the Public Employee Retirement System.

NSEA maintains PERS already has a solid financing plan in place to ensure all benefits earned by public employees will be paid when due. The SAGE Commission is placing this plan in danger.

In addition, Nevada PERS costs are far less than the average similar pension fund. The SAGE Commission is simply trying to shed the budget deficit in an extremely irresponsible manner by putting your neighborhoods, your family, and your homes at risk.

NSEA opposes SB 367 which includes these proposed changes. Go to <http://capwiz.com/nea/nv/state/main/?state=NV> and urge your legislators to oppose SB 367.

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WEA Invites Members and Neighboring Locals to Join in Legislative Rally

It's time to walk-the-walk! That's the message from the Washoe Education Association. WEA invites all members and neighboring local affiliates to join them to demonstrate to elected officials that teachers and support professionals **will** stand up for education.

The rally is set for Monday, April 13th in Carson City. They will gather at the "old" capitol building at 11:30 a.m., then rally in front of the legislative building at noon. For more information, please visit www.weatoday.org.

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Capitol Watch Online...

Check out video recorded for you in Carson City

NSEA President Lynn Warne brings you a weekly video update on the Legislative Action Center of the NSEA website. Check it out! Visit www.nsea-nv.org/LAC.htm and click on Capitol Watch.