



# The Capitol Reporter

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#### Important Dates

Jan. 15 – State of the State Address

Feb. 2 – First day of session

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## Talking Points for State of the State Attached

Governor to Deliver State of the State Address  
*NSEA Lobby Team on the ground in Carson City*

Governor Jim Gibbons is set to deliver the State of the State address tonight in Carson City at 6:00 p.m. The Governor confirmed he will seek to cut state workers' salaries—including teachers and support professionals—by 6 percent. This, along with his other plans to address the state's financial crisis, will be included in his speech. The NSEA Lobby Team will be there to hear his address first hand.

"We are dismayed that the Governor unilaterally decided these draconian cuts were appropriate without talking to educators and understanding the consequences of this kind of public policy," said NSEA President Lynn Warne. "While we recognize the dire economic conditions facing our government we do not believe that the problems can be fixed by reducing the funds allocated to educating our kids. It is short sighted and demonstrates no leadership to make drastic cuts to education. This myopic view of governing is an insult to the citizens of Nevada. There are alternative funding solutions that have been ignored by the Governor throughout this entire process."

NSEA has consistently foretold the shortfall in education funding and have provided a blueprint for mitigating those problems by collaborating with leaders of the gaming industry to raise revenue. Now, ironically, the Governor proposes to use those funds and STILL cut education.

"We are looking forward to working with the Legislature to actually deal with this problem instead of listening to a Governor who is increasingly becoming irrelevant in this process," added Warne. "This Governor has withdrawn himself from his own budget and has attempted to balance the budget on the backs of educators and public employees regardless of other responsible funding solutions."

Attached are the talking points developed to use in talking about the State of the State address.