

Region 64 Update

Volume 2 Issue 4

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Protect the pensions – Call your legislator today

The group of millionaires and billionaires who want to cut the pensions of hard working public employees are scrambling to put together a new proposal after their original plan was exposed as adding \$34 billion to pension costs.

Since last spring, the Chicago-based Civic Committee has tried to ram through the legislature a bill that would have cut pension benefits for active employees. But, as IEA reported a few days ago, the Civic Committee's plan would have caused the state's cost for pensions to skyrocket by \$34 billion over 15 years, despite the plan being promoted as a way for the state to save money.

Now, in reaction to this embarrassment, the billionaires are reportedly tweaking their proposal to try to eliminate the additional damage to taxpayers. It is clear that this group cannot be trusted when it comes to pensions. They have not made their proposal available for analysis by experts, so the impact of the plan on taxpayers and the financial health of the pension systems cannot be determined independently.

It is crucial that all 132,000 IEA members participate in the battle to stop illegal and unfair pension legislation from becoming law.

The new pension plan from the Civic Committee plan, which may be introduced during next week's legislative session, is unacceptable because:

It is unconstitutional to reduce benefits for active employees.

For most education employees, their pension is only form of retirement security because teachers can't collect social security.

It is unfair to ask teachers, who loyally paid their portion into the state's pension system, to contribute 50 percent more if they want to benefit from the system they've counted on all their careers. The pension problem is a result of politicians using the pension systems as a credit card to pay for other state services.

All IEA members are urged to contact their legislators this week:

Call 888/412-6570, follow the prompts to be connected to your legislator and use the above talking points, or

Go to the IEA website, click on the pension tab at the top of the page and you will see a link to e-mail your legislators.



**Is that fire burning yet?
GET INVOLVED
Contact your legislator NOW**



What do IEA dues dollars buy?

How do IEA's dues compare to those in other states?

Alaska	\$647
California.....	\$647
Oregon.....	\$542
Delaware.....	\$524.50
Hawaii	\$519
Wyoming	\$508
Connecticut.....	\$484.50
Massachusetts.....	\$471
Iowa	\$456.50
Idaho	\$453
Illinois.....	\$415
New Hampshire	\$428
Ohio.....	\$425
Washington	\$410



Questions? Contact your local region office for more information.

www.ieanea.org

UniServ Field Services.....\$222.02

Deliver assistance to public school and university employees and their local associations through staff located in regional offices throughout the state that are responsible for delivering the resources of the organization that includes assistance in bargaining, grievance and employee rights, adjudication, crisis preparation, school reform, professional development and certification issues, and the development of strong local affiliates through organizational development.

Legal Defense and Advice\$35.27

At various levels involving the protection and enforcement of rights of members and affiliates, including legal training of staff and \$1 million of employment liability protection for each member provided through NEA and IEA.

Springfield Building Costs, Insurance and Taxes.....\$22.00

Provides for operation and maintenance of Headquarters and Professional Development Center buildings, and insurance coverage for IEA facilities and equipment.

Regional and Local\$22.41

Provides funding for IEA and NEA representative assemblies and for program and training development funds for utilization in regions, as well as ESP and Higher Education Councils.

Program Development\$19.09

Provides the infrastructure for the Association's training, professional development, and information technology needs, staff professional development, and hardware/software maintenance and training. Offers direct assistance and training to ESP, higher education, retired, and student members. Also includes the in-house printing, office telephones and Professional Development Center components.

Business Services/Membership/Fair Share\$14.52

Provides for maintenance of all Association financial records and reporting, employee records, and membership records. Includes costs related to Fair Share program.

Membership Communications.....\$23.24

To enhance the image of public education as well as regular internal reports to members, leaders and affiliates through printed and electronic media.

Governance and State Committees.....\$17.02

Provides leadership for formulating and implementing Association goals, objectives and programs.

Research/Computer Services\$16.60

Provides access to and analysis of school funding data for bargaining. Designs, applies, and analyzes survey data and instruments for staff and local leaders, especially with respect to bargaining and building local capacity. Works with other departments and external partners in the areas of school funding, school reform, and tax reform. Provide general research assistance to various workgroups within IEA.

Government Relations\$16.60

To lobby the General Assembly, Governor, Executive Officers and State Board of Education to enhance the fiscal and general well being of our members, while lobbying the Attorney General and the State Board of Education to produce opinions and/or legal action directly beneficial to active or retired members.

Executive Director's Office.....\$6.23

Management of the Association including staff, employee personnel records, fiscal, coordination of programs and budget, and service delivery, as well as the relationship between the Association and state government officials.

Did you know...

Free Online Computer Training

IEA is pleased to make Custom Guide online computer training available to our members at no cost.

Why watch videos when you can get innovative hands on training?

No one becomes a pro just by watching. Custom Guide's online learning features the industry's best application simulation and user interaction. Users don't just watch videos, they click and type their way through the self-directed, self-paced lessons, gaining experience by doing.

Classes are available in:

- ◇ Access
- ◇ Excel
- ◇ Outlook
- ◇ PowerPoint
- ◇ Computer Basics
- ◇ Windows
- ◇ Mac OS X

Sign Up

The free online computer training site requires you to register using the My IEA Profile page. If you have already created your account, you can proceed to login to the Members Only site.

[Help us reach you]



When things at the capitol happen, we need to mobilize members quickly. Please take a moment to check your personal information through "My Profile" on the IEA website. Once you have verified we can reach you at a non-school email address, you will be entered to win a \$100 gift card or Panera gift card.



**ILLINOIS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
REGION 64**

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Region 64



The 3 locals that comprise Region 64 are dedicated to delivering the best education possible to the children within our communities.

Region 64 is there to advocate for you at the state level to ensure our educators have the tools they need to provide the best education that every child deserves.

Join us in advocating for education



*Region 64
Barrington - Lake Zurich*

We're on the web

WWW.IEANEA.ORG/REGION/64



**Region 64
Barrington /
Lake Zurich**



**Don't wait for others
MAKE THE CALL**