

Special Dues to Support Crisis Fund

NEA Delegates APPROVE Bylaw Amendment #3 **Special Dues to Support Crisis Fund**

NEA members have decided to unite against the unprecedented attacks on educators and America's working class. By approving the special dues increase NEA will be able to stand up to union busting politicians, and stand strong for public education and America's middle class.

- The dues increase will be used to exclusively fund the NEA's Crisis Fund, a program designed to put money back into the states for pro-public education outreach. (NOTE: All Crisis Fund money goes to state-based outreach and none of it is used toward the federal Presidential Campaign.)
- Anti-public education forces have enormous financial backing. The unprecedented attacks on public schools, educators, and our union will continue. NEA will, in response, continue to rely on the real, important, touching stories of their members to engage the general public and win support for our pro-public education agenda.
- The unprecedented attacks on public schools, educators, and our union will continue. The attacks on public schools are in every region of the country. It is not just Wisconsin. All states are targets:
 - 49 states — all except South Dakota — face pension threats
 - 22 states face collective bargaining challenges
 - 12 states face right to work legislation
 - 14 states are trying to do away with tenure
 - Tennessee — Effectively lost the right to collective bargaining
 - Ohio — Lost the right to collective bargaining
 - Indiana — Performance based pay, cuts in pensions, restrictions on collective bargaining rights
 - Idaho — Lost collective bargaining, lap tops will replace teachers, performance standards are now law
 - Arizona — Lost payroll dues deduction
 - Alabama — Lost pay roll dues deduction
 - Michigan — Fighting off anti-tenure and loss of collective bargaining; Emergency Financial Manager passed
 - New Hampshire — Bad pension bill and tenure changes passed
 - New Jersey — Just lost right to bargain health care benefits and must pay 30% of health costs. Both houses of Legislature are controlled by Democrats.
 - North Carolina — The governor vetoed a horrible education budget, but the veto was overridden because five Democrats voted wrong. The legislature also is specifically targeting NCEA with loss of payroll dues deduction.
- Even though some affiliates successfully fought off the worst of the attacks this year, we know that our opponents will come back again either later in this session, in the 2012 legislature or through a ballot measure. The fact that our well-funded opponents did not succeed in stripping collective bargaining or attempt to torpedo the state pension system or target certain states is no assurance that they will not come back with those kinds of attacks or worse in 2012. To the contrary, all indications and evidence suggest strongly that the attacks will be more forceful.