



# memo:

TO: PEF Regional Coordinators, E-Board and Council Leaders  
DATE: January 21, 2011  
RE: **Budget Fight-Back Preparation and Activity**

Governor Cuomo has until February 1<sup>st</sup> to present his Executive Budget to the legislature. As part of PEF's efforts to prepare our budget fight-back, our Legislative Office and Research Department has put together talking points for our leaders and members to use to respond to the many misrepresentations of the state workforce that are reported in the media and have become the basis for many of the attacks against us.

Over the next two weeks we will be contacting our membership through robo-calls, e-mails, and our mobilization and steward networks to continue to help get out our message to friends and neighbors, the legislature, the media and the governor, that the state work force did not create the fiscal crisis and that the burden of the fiscal crisis needs to be shared fairly.

As we know continued cuts to the state work force will make it harder and harder to maintain services and in some instances could potentially endanger citizens; there is a better way to address the budget shortfall that will not threaten services or the jobs of our members who provide them.

I ask that you familiarize yourself with the talking points and budget solutions and use them when you address attacks against us. Additionally, we will need your help in identifying the specific impact of past cuts in the work force to assist in our efforts to fight any additional cuts that may be proposed in the Executive budget. If you have any examples, please send them to Darcy Wells Director of Public Relations.

I would like to thank our PEF leaders and members who have done TV and radio interviews and have written letters and blog entries to publications around the state debunking misinformation used to attack our jobs, pay and benefits.

Your continued support is vital to our efforts as we prepare for the upcoming budget fight-back.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

Attachment