



Union Member - here is your March, 2020 e-newsletter (with updates since early February):

[Breaking Down Barriers to State Workforce Retention](#) *

Members of our affiliate representing managerial and exempt state employees in early March advocated for proposed legislation regarding a "retirement cliff" expected in 2022. [Click here to share a photo of an activist urging lawmakers take action to address its underlying causes.](#)

[Implementing Our Plan to Advance Better Choices](#) *

Members in late February gathered at the State Capitol in Hartford for our annual legislative conference and contribute to our grassroots public policy program. [Click here for photos of elected officials and union leaders hearing from activists on the issues that matter.](#)

[Assuring Members are "Prepared — Not Panicked" — for a Pandemic](#)

National and state union leaders in late February began circulating resources to members in the event of a COVID-19 (novel coronavirus) outbreak in Connecticut. [Click here for our report that includes access to information and recommendations for educators, caregivers and public employees.](#)

[Preparing for a "Complete Count" in Connecticut](#)

AFT Connecticut President Jan Hochadel and Council 4 AFSCME Executive Director Jody Barr co-hosted a podcast episode on the 2020 U.S. Census. [Click here to listen to their interview with Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz on the stakes for union members.](#)

[Defending Students' Higher Education Opportunities](#) *

Members of the unions representing faculty and staff in Connecticut's community colleges and regional universities in late February descended on the State Capitol. [Click here for photos of activists uniting behind proposals to increase accountability for the system's Board of Regents \(BOR\).](#)

[Gathering Educators' Opinions to "Help Bring About Change"](#)

Our state federation earlier this year teamed up with the Connecticut Education Association (CEA) and WFSB-TV Channel 3 for a follow-up teachers survey. [Click here for our joint public statement on the results with links to press coverage featuring union members.](#)

[Delivering Our "Public Hospital, Public Good" Message](#) *

Caregivers at UConn Health in mid February expressed their concerns over proposals to privatize the state's only public acute care facility and academic research institution. [Click here to share a union member's personal message reminding administrators and lawmakers that residents "love their university."](#)

[Speaking Out for Investing in Public Employees' Pensions](#) *

When most of the press ignored a recent report on savings credited to state employee union members, a veteran union leader made his voice heard. [Click here to share Ed Leavy's op-ed published in *The Courant* with fellow union members on Facebook.](#)

Upcoming Activities & Events

- March 10-14: [CPR, AED & First Aid Refresher & Full Courses](#)
- March 14 - April 4: [Regional Legislative Meetings](#) (5 Locations - NEW DATES) *
- March 16: [PreK-12/PSRP ADHD Professional Development Workshop](#)
- March 23: [Healthcare "Legal Issues" Training Workshop](#)
- March 26: [Teachers' Pre-Retirement Seminar](#)
- March 24-26: [Share My Lesson 2020 "Virtual Conference"](#)
- March 31: [PreK-12 & PSRP Autism Panel Workshop](#)
- April 20: [Retired Teachers Lobby Day](#) *

Featured Benefit

- AFT Connecticut: [Scholarships](#)

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