



AFT Connecticut
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Healthcare
Higher Education
Public Employees
PSRP
Teachers

March 20, 2009

TO: Senator Harp
Representative Geragosian
Members of the Appropriations Committee.

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As president of AFT Connecticut, which represents more than 28,000 teachers and educational personnel, healthcare professionals, state employees and higher education faculty and staff, I am writing to you regarding the state spending cap.

Sharon Palmer
PRESIDENT

Melodie Peters
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

As you are aware, the state spending cap has prevented the legislature from providing cities and towns the funding necessary to provide the services and education that our communities need. This has forced municipalities to shift the burden to local property taxes.

Leo Canty
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Thomas Bruenn
SECRETARY-TREASURER

The spending cap has also prevented our state from receiving maximum federal funding for projects and services, essentially throwing money away.

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Despite claims from our current and former governor, the spending cap is not as sacred as they would have people believe. Governor Rell and her predecessor, Governor Rowland, repeatedly broke the spending cap as they saw fit.

It is time for Connecticut to remove the spending cap, and provide communities with the funds they need.

Thank you.

Sharon Palmer
President, AFT Connecticut

