To the Labor & Public Employees Committee,

I strongly urge you to reject House Bill 5552. This Bill will exclude retirement benefits from collective bargaining by State & Municipal employees.

This legislation attacks the collective bargaining rights of a wide swath of public employees. Among them are those of us who teach and work at public higher education institutions. We faculty and academic employees play an important and beneficial role in higher education, dedicating our lives to the betterment of Connecticut's citizenry.

This bill would threaten to throw us back to the 1950s, when public workers were treated as second-class citizens. Educators deserve better: we are the backbone of Connecticut's growth potential.

Respectfully,
Robin Greeley

Robin Adele Greeley
Associate Professor of Art History
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