



OPPOSE

MEMORANDUM IN

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TO

A.5608 – Fitzpatrick
A. 5435 - Goodell

The CSEA strongly opposes this legislation.

These bills would amend the Civil Service Law to repeal the Triborough Amendment to the Taylor Law.

The Triborough Amendment requires that all terms and provisions of an expired public employee contract remain in effect until a new contract is approved. If the expired contract contains provisions for automatic step increases, such increases continue without a new contract. The law, which also prohibits strikes by public employees, was implemented to ensure that work that is critical to the health and safety of the public, such as law enforcement, fire protection, and sanitation, continued even when a collective bargaining agreement had expired.

Public employees in New York State are unfairly targeted for the fiscal problems in local governments and the state. These bills would continue that trend by deleting and altering provisions of the Taylor Law that prohibit a public employer from altering provisions of an expired labor agreement until a new agreement is reached. This would tip the scales in a contract negotiation towards the employers and make it even more difficult for employees to negotiate a fair contract.

The Triborough Amendment has helped countless public employees avoid hardships when negotiations are impeded when public employers refuse to collectively bargain in good faith. This provision of the labor law has served labor, management and the people of New York since 1982.

On behalf of more than 300,000 active and retired, public and private employees, CSEA strongly urges the defeat of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Turner
Director