



# THE VOICE OF STATE EMPLOYEES

- In order to find the name, district address and phone number of your Florida House Representative, go to [www.myfloridahouse.gov](http://www.myfloridahouse.gov)
- For the name, district address and phone number of your Florida State Senator, go to [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

Once you have identified the appropriate names and phone numbers, call those offices and find out when you can stop by to speak with the Senator or the Representative. When you arrive for your appointment, be prepared to discuss the following issues:

**PAY** - Urge support for House Bill 289, sponsored by Representative Vasilinda, which would provide a 7% across-the-board pay adjustment beginning July 1, 2013 and be a big boost to the local economy. Explain that the Governor's proposal will only permit one-time cash bonuses once several criteria are met, which would unfairly deny increases to state employees who have not received an across-the-board pay adjustment for at least six years.

**PENSION** - Oppose proposed legislation that would place all future state employees into a separate, defined contribution plan. Explain that this change will create serious underfunding problems for those covered by the current defined benefit plan, and could jeopardize the amount of money you will receive when you retire. The Florida Retirement System pension plan is almost 90% funded, so there is no reason



to modify one of the most financially-sound public pension plans in America.

**PRIVATIZATION** - Oppose proposed "Smart Justice" legislation, that will increase the number of inmates in work release and re-entry centers, who would be supervised by private organizations. Explain that this change: 1.) will not reduce recidivism; 2.) nor will it lessen the total inmate cost as certain expenses would still be the responsibility of the Florida Department of Corrections (FDOC); and, 3.) it would allow more inmates into communities thereby creating public safety problems. Also make mention that there are more escapes from private run centers than those under the direction and control of the FDOC.