



CSEA NEWS

The Voice of Connecticut's Public Service Employees & Retirees

July, 2025

CSEA SEIU Local 2001

VOL. 58, NO. 7

Governor Lamont “Finds” 190M

Time to Invest it in CT

Last month, Connecticut legislators officially wrapped up the 2025 legislative session and passed the state budget. But just days later, Governor Lamont announced that Connecticut had brought in nearly \$190 million more in tax revenue than originally projected. At first blush this might seem like an unexpected, but pleasant, surprise. But a closer look reveals what this really is - part of a disturbing pattern to hide revenue rather than invest it in the needs of the communities.

Over the past seven years in office, Governor Lamont has “found” an average of \$285 million in the first 2 ½ months after lawmakers leave the Capitol.

This totals over \$1.5B in siphoned off revenue.

\$1.5B that could have and should have been allocated by our elected officials in our state budget, but instead were opaquely hidden from our electeds and the public alike.

This year’s “surprise” revelation comes after a budget was passed that, despite strong advocacy from unions, educators, healthcare providers, and working families, failed to deliver the full investments our communities need. The budget was widely seen as a compromise that left critical needs underfunded—particularly in areas like special education, healthcare, mental health services, and direct relief for working families.

With this newly available \$190 million, there is a clear opportunity to do better.



The state now has a chance to correct course. Lawmakers are preparing to return for a special session, originally intended to address several outstanding issues.

We are calling on the General Assembly and Governor Lamont to allocate these additional

funds toward the urgent needs that were not fully addressed in the final budget. These include:
- Special Education: Many school districts are overwhelmed by

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Members Head to DC For NASHTU Conference

Members Push for Transportation Funding

CSEA sent a strong delegation to the 25th Annual National Association of State Highway and Transportation Unions (NASHTU) Conference, held June 23–25, 2025, in Washington, D.C. The conference brought together public sector transportation unions from across the country to share organizing strategies, confront new federal challenges, and advocate for better funding and staffing in state transportation departments.

Representing Connecticut were Meghan Cahill, Jeff Beckwith, Jan Lawrence, Ned Stanchen, and Daniel Stafko, alongside CSEA Staff Representative Otis Dancy. These dedicated mem-

bers and staff spent three days engaging with union leaders, policy experts, and elected officials on the most pressing issues facing public transportation workers today.

Participants attended sessions on:
- Federal threats to union rights and funding,
- Strategies for recruitment and organizing across state agencies,

Building power within public sector unions,
- Updates on the Highway Trust Fund and federal

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(From Left to Right): Daniel Stafko, Ned Stanchen, Meghan Cahill, Otis Dancy, Jan Lawrence, Jeff Beckwith visited all of CT's federal delegation.

Visit our union's website at: **CSEA-CT.com**

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CSEA, 760 CAPITOL AVE., HARTFORD, CT 06106

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Meetings
And News

The September Delegates Meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting on Thursday September 18th at 10am at the CSEA Union Hall and via Zoom

Chapter 401 (Hartford area)
September 4th at 1pm
CSEA Union Hall & Zoom
Zoom Mtg ID: 895 3209 6902
Patrice Peterson 860 416-0306

Chapter 402 (Danbury area)
Wed., September 10th - 10am
United Methodist Church
5 Clapboard Ridge Road
Danbury, CT
Linda Albanese:860 354-6965

Chapter 403 (Norwich area)
Tues., September 9th - 1:30pm
Rose City Senior Center
8 Mahan Drive, Norwich
Carol Burgess:860 303-7267

Chapter 404 (Waterbury area)
Tues. September 9th - 10am
Trinity Orthodox Church
937 Chase Pkwy, Waterbury

Chapter 405 (New Haven)
Thurs. Sept. 11th - 10:30am
Hamden Government
Center Building, 3rd Floor
2750 Dixwell Ave., Hamden
Sue Pierson (203) 376-7207

Chapter 406 (Middletown)
Tues. September 9 - 12:30pm
American Legion Post 75
58 Bernie O'Rourke Dr.
Middletown, CT

Chapter 407 (Bridgeport area)
Wed., September 17 - 1pm
St. Josephs of Stratford
National Catholic Church
1300 Stratford Rd., Stratford
Zoom ID: 872 4952 3823
Passcode: 000891
Liz Anderson (203) 676-0659

Chapter 408 (Windham Area)
Wednesday, Sept. 10th, 1pm
Mansfield Senior Center
303 Maple Rd., Storrs
Doug Racicot (860) 234-2537

Chapter 409 (Retired
State University Professors)
Friday, Sept., 19th - 10am
CSEA Union Hall & Zoom
760 Capitol Ave., Hartford
Zoom ID: 868 8922 7158
Dave Walsh (860) 684-4773
Chapter 410 (Windsor area)
Monday, September 8 - 1pm
Kent Memorial Library
50 N Main St, Suffield
Amelia Smith 860 687-1848

Chapter 411 (Rocky Hill area)
Thurs., September 18th - 1pm
CSEA Union Hall & Zoom
Zoom Mtg ID: 876 7278 2961
Subby Puglisi (860) 529-8336
Chapter 412 (Putnam area)

Tues., Sept. 16th - 1:30pm
Putnam Town Hall
200 School Street, Putnam
Don Gladding (860) 933-9998

Chapter 414 (Torrington area)
Monday, Sept. 15th at 10am
Five Point Extension Bldg
852 University Dr., Torrington
Kathryn Doan 860 324-8300

Chapter 415 (Manchester)
Monday, Sept. 22nd - 1pm
Elks Lodge in Manchester
30 Bissell Street
Stu Clark: (860) 205-0657

Chapter 416 (New London)
Tuesday, Sept 9th at 12pm

Waterford Public Library
49 Rope Ferry Rd, Waterford
John Knaff: 860-857-4244
Chapter 417 (Plainville area)
Wed., Sept 10th - 1pm
Plainville Public Library
56 East Main St., Plainville
Mark Kirschner
(860) 882-2717

Chapter 418
(Community College Retirees)
Tues., Sept 16th - 10am
4C's Union Hall in Hartford
907 Wethersfield Ave
Zoom ID: 7421833716
Passcode: 6KUURC
Colleen Richard
(860) 202-4128

2025 COUNCIL 400 RETIREES

Annual Picnic

RSVP BY AUG 5TH

THE FARMINGTON POLO CLUB
162 TOWN FARM RD,
FARMINGTON, CT

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2025
11:00-4:00PM

SWIMMING, HORSESHOES, BOCCE, BASKETBALL, FISHING
CELEBRATE SOCIAL SECURITY'S 90TH BIRTHDAY!

Buffet (12:00-2:30PM)

Hamburgers, Veggie Burgers, Hotdogs, Grilled Chicken, NE Clam Chowder, Chili con Carne, Sausage & Peppers, Corn on the Cob, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Egg Potato Salad, Tossed Salad, Watermelon, Cake by Bernadette, Soft Serve Ice Cream

WOW!

\$15 – Members –
\$25 – Non-Member Spouse
\$38 – Guests

Mail completed coupon and check payable to:
"CSEA Council 400"
c/o Tina Franco
45 Peach Orchard Rd, Prospect, CT 06712-105

NO PETS ALLOWED
SERVICE DOGS ARE WELCOME

Member/Member spouse

Non-Member spouse

Phone#

Email (if you want confirmation)

Chapter#/Location

of Guest

Guest Name(s)

Amt Enclosed \$

QUESTIONS
STU CLARK: 860-205-0657
TINA FRANCO: 203721-4382

RSVP BY AUG 5TH

Important numbers to have on hand:

- Retirement Division Payroll: 860-702-3528
- Aetna Customer Service: 1-855-648-0391
- Retirement Division Life Insurance: 860-702-3537
- Caremark: 1-800-318-2572
- Retirement Division Health Insurance: 860-702-3533
- Cigna: 1-800-244-6224
- Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield: 1-800-922-2232
- CSEA Retiree Organizer; Kevin Sullivan: 860-951-6614 x118
- HEP Care Management Solutions: 1-877-687-1448 or visit them at their portal: <https://www.connect2yourhealth.com/ParticipantPortal/Default.aspx>




Spring Into Home Savings

Through our exclusive partnership with Mortgage Markets CUSO, a local credit union service organization, we are pleased to offer a special rate discount when you purchase or refinance your next 30-year mortgage. For a limited time, receive a 0.50% discount off the published rate!* Mortgage Markets CUSO offers the following great benefits:

- Dedicated Credit Union mortgage advisors to guide you through the entire home loan process
- Same day pre-approval
- Guaranteed low closing costs

Whether you are buying your first home, moving to your dream home, or refinancing a current mortgage, CSE is committed to giving you the best mortgage experience. Take advantage of our spring mortgage promotional rate today! To view the current 30-year rate, visit www.CSECreditUnion.com and click on the home-page banner titled "Spring Into Home Savings."

** Rates and promotional offer are subject to change at any time. Certain restrictions and conditions apply - full details may be found on Mortgage Markets CUSO's website after accessing the link in the "Spring Into Home Savings" website banner.*



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Find all the essential information about the products and services we have to offer. You can even print a loan application online! Best of all, it's accessible from your personal computer 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

www.CSECreditUnion.com

Dividend Rates - Second Quarter 2025 Rates

	Dividend Rate	Percentage Yield
REGULAR SHARES	2.50%	2.53%
SHARE DRAFTS (Checking)	1.25%	1.26%
CLUB ACCOUNTS	2.00%	2.02%

Minimum opening balance \$25.00. The annual percentage yield is accurate as of the last dividend declaration date. Rate may change after the account is opened. Fees or other conditions may reduce the earnings on the account.

7 Full Service Offices To Serve You

NORWICH Uncas on Thames 401 West Thames St. Norwich, CT 06306 (860) 889-7378	HARTFORD 84 Wadsworth St. Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 522-5388 (Savings) (860) 522-7147 (Loans)	NEW HAVEN 1666 Litchfield Turnpike Woodbridge, CT 06525 (203) 397-2949
MIDDLETOWN 15 Ward Street Middletown, CT 06457 (860) 347-0479	STORRS 1244 Storrs Rd. Storrs, CT 06268 (860) 429-9306	SOUTHBURY Southbury Training School P.O. Box 644 Southbury, CT 06488 (203) 267-7610
		NEWINGTON O'Neil Plaza 2434 Berlin Turnpike Newington, CT 06111 (860) 667-7668

Hours: Main Office: Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm Branches: Mon-Fri, 9:30am-4pm
Drive-Up Teller (Hartford & Middletown): Mon-Fri, 8:30am-4pm; Paydays Open Until 5pm

Gone too Soon:
CSEA Members Who Have Passed On

The Office of the State Comptroller has provided CSEA with the following members that have recently passed away. Our condolences are with their friends, family and loved ones.

Aldridge, Michael, Correctional Supervisor	Misencik, James, Social And Human Services
Angelillo, Charlotte,Administrative Clerical	Morrarty,Thomas, Correctional Officers
Attardo, Pauline,Administrative Clerical	Ouimette, Doris, Maintenance
Balkun, Loris, Maintenance	Parsons, Jeffrey, Maintenance
Boulianne,Annette,Administrative Clerical	Perko, Joseph, Maintenance
Cataldi, Joseph, Maintenance	Pikula, Marian,Administrative Clerical
Dagon, George, Ct Housing And Finance Auth	Reffner, John, University Of Conn
Dagostino, Joann,Administrative Clerical	Rigby, Charles, Social And Human Services
Direnzo, Guy, State Police	Ross, Sally,Administrative Clerical
Dombroski,Walter, Maintenance	Schuetz, Russell, Correctional Officers
Emond, Howard, Judicial Branch	Sedgwick, Karen,Administrative Clerical
Flynn,Timothy, Protective Services	Smith, Janet, Department Of Agriculture
Fox, Michael, Correctional Officers	Spielman, Rose, Health Professional
Frenette, Gary, Protective Services	Tedesco, Frederick, State Police
Furness, Evelyn, Maintenance	Ulikowski, Ronald, Maintenance
Galante, Patricia, Social And Human Services	Weidl, Mary Lou,Admin And Residual
Gavell, Robert, State Police	Wener, Barbara,Administrative Clerical
Jarzbek, Charles, Engineer, Scien, Tech	Williams, Barbara, Social And Human Services
Jones, Jean,Administrative Clerical	Williams, Suzanne, Health Professional
Julius, Richard, Maintenance	Yaremich, Nancy, Health Professional
Kelly, Michael, Maintenance	
Kim, Ki, State University Faculty	
Knott, Dorothy, Social And Human Services	
Laurent, Linda, State University Faculty	
Letendre, Roger, Judicial Branch	
Levine, George, Judicial Branch	
Lexius, Charles, Judicial Branch	
Lindsey, Judith,Administrative Clerical	
Marek, Gerald, Maintenance	
Mathias, Charity, Comm College Faculty	
Mccormack,William, Education	

CSEA NEWS

The Voice of Connecticut's
Public Service Employees & Retirees

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Local 2001,Service Employees International Union,CTW,CLC

Travis WoodwardPresident
Diane MurphySecretary/Treasurer
David GliddenExecutive Director
Drew E. StonerCommunication Director
Jason P. WebsterGraphic/ Technical Assistance

INSERTION DEADLINE: 1st of prior month.

MAILING ADDRESS: CSEA/SEIU Local 2001, 760 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106;
PHONES: (860) 951-6614, toll-free: (800) 894-9479, FAX: (860) 951-3526; INTERNET:
www.csea-ct.com.

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State Employees: What July 1st Means for You

As of July 1st, all Connecticut state workers have been subjected to an increase in their healthcare costs* while their wages stay stagnant as our current collective bargaining agreements (CBAs) expire.

Across different timelines, negotiation teams throughout SEBAC have been working at each of the 35 bargaining tables to reach fair agreements that address wages, steps and many other issues. Yet as our contracts hit expiration, the Lamont Administration has refused to bring honorable proposals to the tables.

Our state workforce is the backbone of our public safety, infrastructure, education, and health systems—and the first line of defense when federal funding dries up. Yet with no contract in place, the Administration is asking state workers to hold the line while simultaneously insulting them at the bargaining table. Our roads and

bridges continue to age while we scramble to recruit engineers and maintainers. Our public safety professionals are stretched thin, asked to do more with less, even as the risks grow. Our public colleges are hemorrhaging from relentless budget cuts, forcing students and staff to pay the price. And our healthcare workers—still carrying the scars of the pandemic—are being pushed past the point of exhaustion without the support they need to recover.

One unit which has an earlier negotiation timeline, the Judicial Professionals Employees Union (JPE) proposed to the State a one-year economic offer to match what the Administration previously agreed upon with the State Police Union (CSPU NP-1) - 2.5% wage increase plus step with top step payments. **The State's reply to JPE was no wage increase, no step, and no top step payment.** This is insulting

to say the very least and we would not expect a single state bargaining unit to accept this non-offer.

JPE represents just one of the units but workers throughout state government stand in solidarity while they move to arbitration in late summer or early fall. It's important to note that an arbitration award would also still need approval from the General Assembly.

Governor Lamont must stop the games and offer fair and honorable contracts. State investment now is the key to truly safeguarding our state from federal cuts. The longer these contracts are delayed, the less our agencies will be able to retain critical talent, let alone recruit effectively to fill the thousands of vacancies that have been funded by our Legislature. State workers make our state go. It's time to stop the games and respect these workers.

*The overall costs of health premiums for the state and for active employees has increased 9.86% as of July 1, 2025. Non-Medicare retirees are seeing a cost increase of 10.70%. While **the overall trend of rising healthcare costs is not something we can control**, we will continue to do whatever we can to minimize cost increases while protecting the critical benefits that keep state employees healthier and **better able to serve the public. These increases would have been higher had they not already been mitigated by numerous initiatives of the joint Health Care Cost Containment Committee** with the State Comptroller, and it is hoped that next year that the national trend will show a slow down in healthcare cost increases.

Justice Journey: Members Travel Down to Louisiana

In the heat of this year's Solidarity Summer, union members from across the country—workers, faith leaders, and community allies—have come together to launch the Justice Journey, a multi-state mobilization against the unjust detention of immigrant workers. Among them were two CSEA members, Mark Kirschner and Liz Anderson, who joined dozens of others from our state to make their voices heard, participating in a journey that stretches from cities central to the Civil Rights

Movement all the way to Louisiana's so-called "detention alley."

As union members, we know that no matter where you're from or what you look like, you deserve to be treated with dignity and respect. That's why the Justice Journey aimed to shine a light on the inhumane treatment of immigrant workers who are being held in harsh conditions at ICE detention centers—particularly in Louisiana, where many of the worst abuses have been reported.

These SEIU members stood alongside colleagues from across the nation in calling for Freedom. Family. Justice. Their message was clear: the detention and deportation of immigrant workers is not only an attack on individuals—it's an attack on the very foundation of our workplaces, communities, and shared values.

While the journey traversed a physical route through the South, it also served as a broader reflection on history and solidarity. The stops along the way—each a site tied to the long legacy of civil rights and workers' movements—reminded participants and

observers alike that our fight for justice is deeply rooted in a larger struggle. Just as past generations fought to end Jim Crow laws, defend voting rights, and expand access to opportunity, today's SEIU members are taking up the mantle to fight for immigrant justice, racial equity, and the right to live and work free from fear.

In solidarity, we continue this journey—on the road, at the Capitol, and in every union hall across our state.



CSEA Members Liz Anderson and Mark Kirschner joined union members from across the country on the journey to Louisiana!



Governor Lamont “Finds” \$190M After Budget Passes

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rising costs and declining state support while our paraeducators are experiencing the brunt of burnout and low pay.

- State Agencies: Contracts covering the 45,000 state employees have expired, exacerbating the recruitment and retention challenges the state is experiencing.
- Healthcare and Mental Health Services:

Communities are facing growing needs for care, but providers remain underfunded and understaffed.

- Support for Working Families: Promised tax relief and funding for basic services must be made whole.

This is not about politics—it's about priorities. Connecticut has the resources. What we need now is the will to invest them in the right places.

We know the needs in our communities haven't changed—if anything, they've grown. Our public schools, healthcare providers, and working families are still facing the same challenges they were before this budget was passed. Now, with \$190 million in newly available funds, lawmakers have a second chance to do what's right.

Members Head to DC for National Association of State Highway and Transportation Unions Conference

continued from page 1

importance of investing in Connecticut's transportation workforce and infrastructure. They made clear that underfunding and privatization hurt both workers and the public—and that unions are essential to building safe, reliable, and equitable transportation systems.

As Connecticut continues to face the impacts of fiscal constraints and staffing shortages, CSEA's delegation returned more motivated than ever to organize, educate, and fight for the future of public transportation.



Mrs. Eyvette Candidate, a longtime Council 760 leader from our Hartford School Crossing Guard unit is retiring after more than 35 years of service. Please join us in sending her a farewell and congratulations!



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Don't Let the Fiscal Roadblocks Derail Our Future

Mike O'Brien, President, CSEA Retiree Council 400

Connecticut is poised to end the fiscal year with a \$2.3 billion surplus - the second - largest in state history. Yet despite this financial windfall, our ability to invest in the services and people that make our state strong remains blocked by outdated fiscal “guardrails.”

Mechanisms like the spending cap and volatility adjustment were created to bring discipline to state budgeting. But they are undermining our ability to meet the moment. These restrictions prevent the legislature from using available funds - even when needs are urgent and the revenue is reliable.

That's a problem for everyone in Connecticut. But it's especially dangerous for retirees, as we approach our first opportunity to renegotiate the SEBAC retiree healthcare and pension agreement since 1997.

These negotiations, set to formally begin in 2026 will directly impact our pensions and our access to affordable, high-quality healthcare. With costs rising and federal COVID aid drying up, we need flexibility - not austerity - to respond to today's challenges.

That's why CSEA Council 400 is already taking action. We know our strength at the bargaining table comes from our numbers and our unity. And I'm proud to share that over the past year, we've recruited nearly 800 new members, bringing our total to around 12,500 dues-paying retirees and spouses. That's a testament to the strength of our movement - and to the power of retiree organizing.

Much of this success is thanks to the outstanding leadership of Tom Welch and Doug Racicot, Co-Chairs of the CSEA Council 400 Recruitment Committee. Tom, a retired educator since 2009, remains a proud and active member of this union, sharing lessons in solidarity and strategy. Doug, who retired from UConn in 2019 after years as a building maintenance supervisor, brings the same teamwork and commitment to his role in Council 400. I want to personally thank both of them for their hard work, and for continuing to lead by example in retirement.

We know what's coming. The State may once again try to shift

healthcare costs onto retirees. Our ability to respond - and to win - depends on staying organized and growing our numbers. Council 400 is:

- Advancing proposals to protect the long-term stability of the pension system
- Fighting to ensure affordable, high-quality healthcare for retirees
- Keeping members informed and engaged through chapter meetings, surveys, and direct communication

Everyone receiving CSEA News is already a member - and that matters. But we can do more. If you know a fellow retiree or spouse who hasn't joined, please reach out. Membership is just \$5 a month, and it makes a big difference. You can even sign up before retirement at CSEA-CT.com or by contacting Kevin P. Sullivan, our Retiree Organizer, at (860) 951-6614 x118 or ksullivan@csea760.com.

Meanwhile, we're joining union members statewide in urging Governor Lamont to declare a fiscal emergency - a legal step that would allow lawmakers to adjust

these restrictive caps and put surplus funds to work. This isn't about abandoning fiscal responsibility; it's about using it. Letting billions sit idle while our needs grow is not discipline - it's disinvestment.

Let's meet the pension and healthcare negotiations with strength. Let's ensure no retiree stands alone. And let's demand a budget that reflects our values and our contributions.

In solidarity,
Mike O'Brien



CSEA, SEIU Local 2001

STATEMENT OF TOTAL EXPENSES AND ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN CHARGEABLE EXPENSES AND NON-CHARGEABLE EXPENSES AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

JUNE 30, 2024

CSEA, SEIU Local 2001

STATEMENT OF TOTAL EXPENSES AND ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN CHARGEABLE EXPENSES AND NON-CHARGEABLE EXPENSES

JUNE 30, 2024

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Executive Council of the CSEA, SEIU Local 2001

Opinion

We have audited the allocation of expenses of the CSEA, SEIU Local 2001 (Local 2001), which comprises the statement of total expenses and allocation of expenses between chargeable expenses and non-chargeable expenses for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the statement.

In our opinion, the accompanying statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the allocation of expenses of Local 2001 for the year ended June 30, 2024, on the basis of the definitions and the significant factors and assumptions described in Notes 3 and 4.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Statement section of our report. We are required to be independent of Local 2001 and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the statement in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Statement

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements, including omissions, are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the statement.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the statement, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the statement.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Local 2001's internal control. According no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the statement.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Local 2001's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Matter - Allocation of Expenses

The total expenses presented in Column A agree to the total expenses - modified cash basis in the audited financial statements of the CSEA, SEIU Local 2001 for the year ended June 30, 2024. The allocation of expenses between chargeable (Column B) and non-chargeable (Column C) is based on the definitions and the significant factors and assumptions described in Notes 3 and 4. The accompanying statement was prepared for the purpose of determining the fair share cost of services rendered by Local 2001 for employees represented by, but not members of, Local 2001. The accompanying statement is not intended to be a complete presentation of Local 2001's financial statements.

Report on the Audited Financial Statements

The total expenses reflected in this statement were audited by other auditors whose report, dated October 3, 2024, expressed an unmodified opinion on those statements.

Restriction on Use

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the CSEA, SEIU Local 2001 and its agency fee payers and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specific parties.

Novak Francella LLC

Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania
March 24, 2025

CSEA, SEIU Local 2001

STATEMENT OF TOTAL EXPENSES AND ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN CHARGEABLE EXPENSES AND NON-CHARGEABLE EXPENSES

Year Ended June 30, 2024

	As per Audited Financial Statement	Revenues	Column A		Column B		Column C	
			Adjusted Total		Chargeable		Non-Chargeable	
Administration:								
Personnel services	\$ 2,146,481	\$ -	\$ 2,146,481		\$ 1,817,882		\$ 328,599	
Employee insurance	338,233	-	338,233		239,379		98,853	
Pension plan and other postretirement	497,343	-	497,343		338,768		158,575	
Payroll taxes	181,456	-	181,456		124,052		57,404	
Travel - miscellaneous	146,722	-	146,722		87,546		59,176	
Telephone	19,853	-	19,853		12,053		7,800	
Office supplies	7,936	-	7,936		5,361		2,575	
Postage	22,576	-	22,576		15,350		7,226	
Maintenance of equipment	2,713	-	2,713		1,844		869	
SEIU per capita payments								
Free chapter rebates and AMECSS	1,615,046	(181,438)	1,433,608		685,684		747,924	
Council/Chapter funding and rebates	289,812	181,438	398,750		275,711		123,039	
Sundry	4,896	-	4,896		2,783		2,113	
Professional fees	34,780	-	34,780		34,780		-	
Computer service	25,342	-	25,342		25,342		-	
Bernard H. McCusker Scholarship								
Fund donations	4,880	-	4,880		-		4,880	
Dues and subscriptions	12,376	-	12,376		12,376		-	
Other taxes	3,819	-	3,819		3,819		-	
Bad Debt expense	1,967	-	1,967		4,064		1,903	
	1,260,276	-	1,260,276		1,512,044		1,248,232	
Housing	158,837	-	158,837		102,544		56,293	
Members' service - legal	41,812	-	41,812		41,812		-	
Publications and information	105,122	-	105,122		39,964		65,158	
Executive Council, officers and committees	75,284	-	75,284		86,347		9,937	
Members' service - field	28,837	-	28,837		28,837		-	
Depreciation	29,289	-	29,289		18,870		10,419	
Total	\$ 5,715,588	\$ -	\$ 5,715,588		\$ 3,680,182		\$ 2,115,406	

CSEA, SEIU Local 2001

NOTES TO STATEMENT OF TOTAL EXPENSES AND ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN CHARGEABLE EXPENSES AND NON-CHARGEABLE EXPENSES

YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature and Organization - CSEA, SEIU Local 2001 (Local 2001) was incorporated in the State of Connecticut on October 24, 1941 for the purpose of uniting employees and retirees of the State of Connecticut for their mutual welfare, protection, and advancement. The Union's revenue consists primarily of members' dues.

Method of Accounting - The statement has been prepared using the accrual basis of accounting.

Depreciation - Depreciation and amortization of fixed assets are computed using the straight-line method at rates calculated to allocate the cost of the applicable assets over their estimated useful lives, which are 15 - 40 years for buildings and building improvements and 3 - 7 years for furniture and fixtures. Depreciation expense for the year ended June 30, 2024 was \$29,286.

Estimates - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts of expenses in the statement. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

NOTE 2. TAX STATUS

Local 2001 is a nonprofit organization and is exempt from Federal and state income taxes on exempt function income under the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Local 2001 has income, attributable to its newsletter operations and other promotional activities, that is subject to Federal and state unrelated business income taxes. For the year ended June 30, 2024, Local 2001 has experienced losses on the activities and no taxes have been paid.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require management to evaluate tax positions taken by Local 2001 and recognize a tax liability if Local 2001 has taken an uncertain position that, more likely than not, would not be sustained upon examination by the U.S. Federal, state, or local taxing authorities. Local 2001 is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. Typically, tax years will remain open for three years; however, this may differ depending upon the circumstances of Local 2001.

NON-CHARGEABLE EXPENSES

Chargeable Expenses - Chargeable expenses are those expenses incurred by Local 2001 for representational activities. Representational activities are those duties that Local 2001 performs as a representative of the employees in dealings with the employers, including collective bargaining, contract administration, grievance arbitration, and other activities germane to the collective bargaining process.

Activities that are classified as chargeable include the following: preparation for and negotiation of collective bargaining agreements; contract administration including grievance activities; issues involving specific terms and conditions of employment such as wages, hours, benefits, employment discrimination, tenure, pensions/retirement, social security, teacher evaluation, environmental issues in the workplace, etc.; professional development, curriculum development and implementation, teaching methods and other instructional skills, site-based decision making and education generally, except to the extent that these expenditures involve legislative lobbying, political activities or external public relations; efforts to enhance and maintain a united front, allegiance and commitment among represented employees; arbitration proceedings, preparation and associated costs; information retrieval processes to support representational activities; membership services and other activities ancillary to collective bargaining that are principally designed to strengthen Local 2001 as a cohesive and effective bargaining agent including social and human relations activities; communications, publications and public relations efforts directed to represented employees for Local 2001 policy and related germane activities; governance of Local 2001 including conventions, Executive Council and meetings and expenses, judicial administration of constitution and bylaws, and coordination of affiliates; internal executive administration of Local 2001 including formulating policy, financial administration, and maintenance of membership status; education and training for members, officers and employees; and litigation costs and professional fees related to collective bargaining, contract administration, employment rights and benefits, organizational maintenance and defense, duties of fair representation under State of Connecticut law, and any other germane activities described above.

Non-Chargeable Expenses - Non-chargeable expenses are those expenses incurred by Local 2001 for the benefit and advancement of the members and Local 2001 which are not considered representational activities for non-members. Non-chargeable activities are those services that are ideological or political in nature, exclusively for the benefit of members, and those that are not considered germane to representing non-members in the collective bargaining process.

Activities that are considered as non-chargeable include the following: lobbying and political efforts before the state legislature, state agencies, or other executive branch officials, unless specifically related to ratification or implementation of a collective bargaining agreement or issues pertaining to members and non-members; external public relations not specifically related to collective bargaining or contract administration; political activities; supporting or contributing to charitable, religious or ideological causes; organizing or establishing new or expanded bargaining units as opposed to attempting to maintain current bargaining units and membership; litigation costs that are not germane to employee representation; and Local 2001 publications to

BETWEEN CHARGEABLE EXPENSES AND NON-CHARGEABLE EXPENSES

Personnel - Consists of staff wages and longevity payments. These expenses have been allocated based on staff analysis of their time spent on the activities described in Note 3.

Employee insurance - Consists of Local 2001's share of staff health insurance. These expenses have been allocated based on staff analysis of their time spent on the activities described in Note 3.

Pension plan and other postretirement - Consists of Local 2001's contributions to staff pension plans and contributions for retiree health insurance. These expenses have been allocated based on staff analysis of their time spent on the activities described in Note 3.

Payroll taxes - Consists of Federal and state employer taxes on staff wages and longevity payments. These expenses have been allocated based on staff analysis of their time spent on the activities described in Note 3.

Travel - miscellaneous - Consists of staff mileage expenses, automobile allowances, automobile lease payments, automobile repairs and maintenance and other travel expenses. These expenses have been allocated based on related staff analysis of their time spent on the activities described in Note 3.

Note regarding results of all other expenses analysis - Certain overhead and administrative expense categories have been allocated between chargeable and non-chargeable expenses based on the results of analyzing all other expenses. This represents the analysis of all expenses that can be determined to be chargeable versus non-chargeable through analysis with the exception of Service Employees International Union per capita tax payments as that expense is not controllable by Local 2001.

Telephone - Consists of land lines at Local 2001 headquarters and cell phones. These expenses have been allocated based on the results of all other expense analysis.

Office supplies - Consists of pens, paper, office equipment expenses, printing supplies and various other office supplies. These expenses have been allocated based on the results of all other expense analysis.

Postage - Consists of general mailing and shipping costs. These expenses have been allocated based on the results of all other expense analysis.

Maintenance of equipment - Consists of service agreement costs for the effort press, labeling equipment, folding and inserting equipment, maintenance and repair costs of production equipment not covered by service agreements and copier leases. These expenses have been allocated based on the results of all other expense analysis.

BETWEEN CHARGEABLE EXPENSES AND NON-CHARGEABLE EXPENSES (continued)

SEIU Per capita tax payments (free chapter rebates and AMECSS) - Consists of per capita payments to Service Employees International Union, CTW, CLC - United States Division (SEIU). These expenses have been allocated based upon SEIU's audited consolidated statement of expenses and allocation between chargeable expenses and non-chargeable expenses - series 3 report for the year ended June 30, 2023. According to this audited report, chargeable expenses represented 48.00% of total expenses.

Council/Chapter funding and rebates - Consists of rebates and refunds to subordinate associations, chapters, and councils pursuant to the CSEA SEIU Constitution. Also consists of dues rebates to members and non-members and per capita payments to the State Council. These expenses are considered to be fully chargeable except for the per capita payments to the State Council which are considered non-chargeable.

Sundry - Consists of paper goods, cleaning supplies, and other miscellaneous unincorporated expenses. These expenses have been allocated based on the results of all other expense analysis.

Professional fees - Consists of professional fees paid for the audit of Local 2001's annual financial statements, preparation of Local 2001's annual Hudson statement, and preparation of government Forms LM-2 and 990. These expenses are considered to be fully chargeable.

Computer service - Consists of computer network and consulting fees. These expenses are considered to be fully chargeable.

Bernard H. McCusker Scholarship Fund donations - Consists of donations to the Scholarship Fund, which is a member only Fund. As such, these expenses are considered to be fully non-chargeable.

Dues and subscriptions - Consists of dues and subscriptions to various legal, labor, labor relations and arbitration publications or databases. These expenses are considered to be fully chargeable.

Other taxes - Consists of sales and use taxes. These expenses are considered to be fully chargeable.

Staff training - Consists of staff representative training and support staff training. These expenses are considered to be fully chargeable.

Capital expenses - Consists of equipment purchases. These expenses have been allocated based on the results of all other expense analysis.

Grant program - These expenses have been allocated based on the results of all other expense analysis.

OTHER MATTER - ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES AND NON-CHARGEABLE EXPENSES (continued)

Housing - Consists of insurance, fidelity bonding, real estate and property taxes, electricity, building maintenance, janitorial supplies, parking lot lease payments, heating, and water expenses. These expenses have been allocated based on the results of all other expense analysis.

Members' service - legal - Consists of expenses pertaining to Local 2001's legal counsel, election issues, and charges and trials. These expenses are considered to be fully chargeable.

Publications and information - Consists of printing and mailing costs related to the CSEA News. These expenses were allocated between chargeable and non-chargeable based on analysis of the content of each issue in accordance with the activities described in Note 3.

Executive Council, officers and committees - Consists of expenses related to Executive Council meetings, officer expenses, committee and committee meeting expenses. These expenses were allocated in accordance with the activities described in Note 3.

Members' service - field - Consists of arbitration expenses and other representational expenses. These expenses are considered to be fully chargeable.

Depreciation - Consists of depreciation expenses on Local 2001's building, building improvements, and office furniture and equipment. These expenses have been allocated based on the results of all other expense analysis.

Revenues - This column of the Statement of Total Expenses and Allocation of Expenses between Chargeable and Non-Chargeable Expenses consists of reclassifications to Local 2001's June 30, 2023 audited financial statements to better reflect overall expenses for purposes of this statement. Local 2001 also provides services for a group of managerial employees who belong to the Association of Managerial Employees in CT State Service, Inc. (AMECSS). Local 2001 receives a biweekly payment from the members of AMECSS, of which a portion is transmitted back to AMECSS. The amounts that were transferred to AMECSS during the year ended June 30, 2024 have been offset by the affiliate member payments received by Local 2001.



SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION, CTW, CLC AND SUBSIDIARY
Consolidated Statement of Expenses and Allocation Between
Chargeable Expenses and Nonchargeable Expenses
December 31, 2023
With Independent Auditor's Report

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Executive Board of
Service Employees International Union, CTW, CLC:

Opinion

We have audited the consolidated statement of expenses and allocation between chargeable expenses and nonchargeable expenses (the "statement") of the Service Employees International Union, CTW, CLC and Subsidiary (the "International Union").

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated statement of expenses and allocation between chargeable expenses and nonchargeable expenses presents fairly, in all material respects, the expenses of the Service Employees International Union, CTW, CLC and Subsidiary for the year ended December 31, 2023 and the allocation of those expenses between chargeable expenses and nonchargeable expenses on the basis of the definitions in Note 3 to the statement and the significant factors and methodologies described in Note 4 to the statement.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAS"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statement section of our report. We are required to be independent of the International Union and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to the notes to the statement, which describe the basis of presentation. The total operating expenses reflected in the total expenses column in the statement agree to the expenses reflected in the audited consolidated financial statements of the International Union for the year ended December 31, 2023. Notes 3 and 4 to the statement describe the definitions of chargeable expenses and nonchargeable expenses and the significant factors and methodologies used in the allocation of expenses between chargeable and nonchargeable, which was prepared based on management's interpretation of case law relevant to union fair share costs, in which a union is authorized by statute to collect from non-members only those fees and dues necessary to perform its duties as a collective bargaining representative. Our opinion is not modified with respect to that matter.

Other Matter

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the consolidated financial statements of the Service Employees International Union, CTW, CLC and Subsidiary as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and our report thereon dated April 24, 2024 expressed an unmodified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

Responsibilities of Management for the Consolidated Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the statement in accordance with the significant accounting policies presented in Note 2 to the statement, the definitions presented in Note 3 to the statement and the significant factors and methodologies described in Note 4 to the statement and for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the statement, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the International Union's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the statement is available to be issued.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statement

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if, there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the statement.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the statement, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the statement.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the International Union's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the statement.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the International Union's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Restriction on Use

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Executive Board and management of the Service Employees International Union, CTW, CLC and Subsidiary and, at the International Union's sole discretion, its local unions and their agency fee payors and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Withum Smith & Brown, P.C.

June 28, 2024

Service Employees International Union, CTW, CLC and Subsidiary
Consolidated Statement of Expenses and Allocation Between
Chargeable Expenses and Nonchargeable Expenses
Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Total Expenses	Chargeable Expenses	Nonchargeable Expenses
Operating expenses			
Salaries	\$ 54,513,955	\$ 34,265,522	\$ 20,248,433
Benefits	24,454,520	17,855,157	6,599,363
Employee expenses	6,968,229	3,589,107	3,379,122
Professional fees	43,888,123	24,822,680	19,265,443
Non-employee generated expenses	6,933,625	2,020,543	4,913,082
Rent, utilities and building maintenance	4,672,423	4,506,412	166,011
Administrative expenses	11,560,926	11,121,915	439,011
Subsidies, payments and withdrawals	57,707,213	17,142,049	40,565,164
Contributions	22,155,931	1,341,581	20,814,350
Other union expenses	54,643,464	12,077,512	42,565,952
Total operating expenses	287,498,409	128,542,478	158,955,931
Less			
Political expenses paid from voluntary contributions	(19,710,931)	-	(19,710,931)
	\$ 267,787,478	\$ 128,542,478	\$ 139,245,000
Percentage	100.00%	48.00%	52.00%

1. ORGANIZATION

The Service Employees International Union, CTW ("Change to Win"), CLC ("Canadian Labour Congress") and Subsidiary (the "International Union") is a not-for-profit entity established to promote the general welfare of public service workers, health-care workers, property service workers and industrial and allied workers in the United States, Puerto Rico and Canada. The International Union engages in various activities on behalf of the members including organizing, collective bargaining, political education, legislative action, research and education, community service programs, improvement of working conditions and advancement of the social and economic well-being of union members. The primary source of revenue is per capita taxes paid by local unions.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting

The consolidated statement of expenses and allocation between chargeable expenses and nonchargeable expenses (the "statement") has been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

Basis of Presentation

The statement was prepared based on management's interpretation of case law relevant to union fair share costs, in which a union is authorized by statute to collect from non-members only those fees and dues necessary to perform its duties as a collective bargaining representative. The statement is not intended to be a complete presentation of the International Union's financial position or changes in its net assets and its cash flows in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Principles of Consolidation

The statement includes the accounts of the United States Division and the Canadian Division, Political Education and Action Fund, the Committee on Political Education, United We Can and 1800 Massachusetts Avenue Corporation, a not-for-profit corporation formed to be a title-holding corporation for the International Union's existing headquarters building. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

Accounting Estimates

The preparation of the statement requires management to make estimates and determine methodologies that affect the reported amounts of expenses during the reported period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Depreciation and Amortization

Property assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis at rates calculated to amortize the cost of the assets over their respective estimated useful lives. For the year ended December 31, 2023, total depreciation and amortization expense was \$3,139,164 and is included in other union expenses on the statement.

Subsequent Events

In preparing the statement, management of the International Union has evaluated events and transactions that occurred after December 31, 2023 for potential recognition or disclosure in the statement. These events and transactions were evaluated through June 28, 2024, the date that the statement was available to be issued, and no items have come to the attention of management that require recognition or disclosure.

3. DEFINITIONS

Chargeable Expenses

Chargeable expenses reflect the share of the costs of operations of the International Union which are considered necessary and reasonably incurred for the purpose of assisting local unions in the performance of their duties as a representative of the employees in dealing with the employers on labor management issues, including the costs of the following:

- Negotiating and administering the collective bargaining contracts,
- Settling grievances and disputes by mutual agreement or in arbitration, court or otherwise,
- Performing activities and undertakings normally and reasonably employed to implement the duties of the local union as representative of the employees in the bargaining unit, and
- Maintaining the International Union's and local unions' existence.

The following are examples of expenses classified as chargeable:

- Preparing and negotiating collective bargaining agreements,
- Performing contract administration including investigating and processing grievances,
- Conducting meetings, conferences, administrative, arbitral and court proceedings and pertinent investigation and research in connection with work-related subjects and issues,
- Handling work-related problems of employees,
- Providing legal, economic and technical expertise on behalf of employees in all work-related matters, and
- Organizing employees of employers in competitive markets where the International Union already represents employers in the same market.

Nonchargeable Expenses

Nonchargeable expenses are those expenses incurred by the International Union for the benefit and advancement of represented employees and their union that are not considered representational activities for non-members. Nonchargeable activities include those services that are ideological or political in nature; those that are exclusively for the benefit of full union members; and those that otherwise are not considered germane to the collective bargaining process.

The following are examples of expenses classified as nonchargeable:

- Legislative and government activities outside the limited context of contract ratification or implementation,
- Public relations and other efforts directed towards functional activities that are not considered germane to the collective bargaining process,
- Political activity expenses which include support at the federal, state or local level,
- Contributions to political and charitable organizations for community service activities, or for organizing in new markets,
- Per capita tax fees paid to a labor organization,
- Organizing of employees of units of government and employees of employers in markets where the International Union does not already represent employees, and
- Cost of benefits that are not available to non-members.

4. SIGNIFICANT FACTORS AND METHODOLOGIES RELATING TO THE ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES BETWEEN CHARGEABLE EXPENSES AND NONCHARGEABLE EXPENSES

Personnel expenses are allocated to chargeable expenses and nonchargeable expenses as determined through a time study. The following are considered personnel expenses:

- Salaries,
- Benefits, and
- Employee expenses.

Non-personnel expenses are allocated to chargeable expenses and nonchargeable expenses based on the specific purpose of the expense as determined when the expense is incurred. The following are considered non-personnel expenses:

- Professional fees,
- Non-employee generated expenses,
- Rent, utilities and building maintenance,
- Administrative expenses,
- Contributions,
- Subsidies, payments and withdrawals, and
- Other union expenses.

All expenses incurred by the Canadian Division of the International Union and paid directly from Canadian per capita taxes are considered nonchargeable expenses in the statement.

5. RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The International Union is party to a number of lawsuits. The liability, if any, associated with these matters is not presently determinable. In the opinion of management, resolution of these matters will not have a material effect on the International Union's operating expenses.

Workers Need Change: Connecticut Stepped Back While Oregon Stepped Up

Across the country, workers are demanding stronger protections, and in some places, they’re getting them. Earlier this year, Oregon Governor Tina Kotek signed a groundbreaking law granting unemployment benefits to workers forced onto picket lines for extended strikes. The message from Oregon was clear: if you’re standing up for your rights on the job, your state should stand with you.

But here in Connecticut, we saw a very different response.

What Happened in Connecticut?

In the final weeks of the 2025 legislative session, the Connecticut General Assembly passed Senate Bill 8, a bill that would have offered similar protections to striking workers by expanding unemployment benefits to those on strike for more than two weeks. The bill was widely supported by union members, including CSEA, and was the result of months of testimony, coalition organizing, and

negotiation.

Governor Ned Lamont vetoed the bill.

Despite calling himself pro-labor, Governor Lamont rejected SB 8 and argued that it would send the “wrong message” to businesses. This, even as workers across the state—many of them public employees—face rising costs of living, increasing workloads, and stagnant wages.

The response from organized labor was swift. On June 17, hundreds of union members—including a strong turnout from CSEA—rallied outside the Governor’s mansion to protest the veto. Workers came from all over the state and all sectors—public, private, care, and trades—to deliver one united message: Connecticut must do better.

CSEA members stood shoulder to shoulder with SEIU 1199NE, AFSCME, the CT AFL-CIO, UAW, and others, chanting: “What side are you on?” “Workers deserve

unemployment!”

“This is what democracy looks like!”

The right to strike is already difficult to exercise, and for low-wage workers and caregivers, going without pay for even a week is not an option. Without this bill, striking becomes a luxury the wealthy can afford—and a right denied to working people.

But the contrast couldn’t be clearer. In Oregon, the state stepped in to protect workers

fighting for better contracts and conditions. In Connecticut, the veto of SB 8 leaves striking workers with no safety net and sends a chilling message: your sacrifice won’t be supported.

We can’t afford performative politics. Our members, our neighbors, and our communities need concrete protections. Oregon proved it can be done. Connecticut needs to catch up.



Over 500 workers came out on a Monday night to picket in front of one of the Governor’s three mansions.

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