

OVERVIEW

2008 GENERAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION

FUNDING:

- 2.5% INCREASE TO WEIGHTED PUPIL UNIT
- \$1,700 EARMARKED RAISE FOR TEACHERS
- OVER \$20 MILLION ONGOING FUNDING EARMARKED FOR NEW EDUCATION PROGRAMS
- HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX CREDITS PASSED WILL REDUCE UNIFORM SCHOOL FUND REVENUE BY \$24 MILLION OVER TWO YEARS
- \$20 MILLION ONE-TIME TO DISTRICTS FOR "PAY FOR PERFORMANCE" FOR SCHOOL EMPLOYEES (INCLUDING CLASSIFIED)
- 3% COLA FOR STATE AND HIGHER EDUCATION EMPLOYEES

PRIVATIZATION:

- NO PASSED BILLS SPECIFICALLY AFFECTING PUBLIC EDUCATION
- BILLS THAT STRONGLY FAVORED PRIVATIZATION WERE NOT HEARD
- STATE AND SOME COUNTY AND CITY ENTITIES REQUIRED TO INVENTORY "COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES"
- PROCEDURE ESTABLISHED FOR UNSOLICITED PRIVATE PROPOSALS TO SUPPLY GOODS AND SERVICES TO STATE OFFICE OF EDUCATION

OTHER LEGISLATION OF INTEREST TO CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES:

- PARAEDUCATOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BUT ONLY FUNDED FOR \$25,000
- MANDATE TO ESTABLISH GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL BUS IDLING AND PROGRAM TO RETROFIT SCHOOL BUSES PASSED
- EXTRA DAYS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS PASSED AND FUNDED
- SCHOOL DISTRICT SPLIT PROCEDURE REFINED
- GOVERNOR'S OFFICE EMPLOYEES AND CERTAIN APPOINTED/HIGH LEVEL AT-WILL EMPLOYEES MAY NOW OPT OUT OF DEFINED BENEFIT RETIREMENT SYSTEM