

IN NEVADA, THE TEACHERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS BACK TO WORK ACT WILL PROVIDE \$258.3 MILLION IN FUNDS TO SUPPORT UP TO 3,600 EDUCATOR JOBS

The Teachers and First Responders Back to Work Act will save or create nearly 400,000 education jobs through critical investments in the education of our nation's children. Specifically, The Teachers and First Responders Back to Work Act will invest \$30 billion to support state and local efforts to retain, rehire, and hire early childhood, elementary, and secondary educators. Facing a \$1.2 billion projected budget shortfall in 2013, cuts to state and local spending on education will place thousands of Nevada teacher jobs at risk. The Teachers and First Responders Back to Work Act will provide Nevada with an additional \$258.3 million in funds that will support 3,600 education jobs, provide a jolt to the state economy, and improve the quality of education. By asking millionaires to pay their fair share, The Teachers and First Responders Back to Work Act will grow the Nevada economy without adding a dime to the deficit.

Nevada Budget Shortfall Forced State To Slash Education Spending by 2.6 Percent. As a result of the most severe fiscal crisis since the Great Depression, Nevada faced a budget shortfall of \$1.2 billion in 2012, a staggering 37.4% of the state's General Fund. Given the dramatic reduction in state revenue, the state was forced to slash funding for educational programs and services. In Nevada, elementary and high schools are currently receiving 2.6% less state funding this year than in 2008. [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [6/17/11](#); Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [10/7/11](#)]

In Nevada, 8,800 Local Government Jobs Have Been Lost Since 2008, Including Many Teachers. Given Nevada's cuts to education programs, local school districts are forced to cut back on educational programs and services, often laying-off needed teachers and other critical staff, or raising additional revenue to cover the shortfall. As a result, local government employment fell by 8,800 in Nevada, showing that teachers, police, firefighters, and other public employees faced layoffs. These unprecedented layoffs extended the recession and have slowed the recovery in Nevada. [Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, [10/7/11](#); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, accessed on [10/14/11](#)]

With Fewer Teachers and Resources, Nevada School Systems Make Choices That Impact the Learning Environment for Students. "The Nevada governor ordered cuts to K-12 education, including delaying an all-day kindergarten expansion, cutting per-pupil expenditures by \$400 in a pilot program, eliminating funds for gifted and talented programs and a magnet program for students who are deaf or hard of hearing. Additionally, young children with developmental delays will lose more than 15,000 hours of needed services." [National Education Association, [4/10](#)]

Democrats Helped Nevada Avoid an Even Worse Situation, Preventing Hundreds of Potential Layoffs. Without Democratic intervention in 2010, Nevada school districts would have been forced to lay off as many as 2,700 teachers. Recognizing the financial difficulty that many state and local governments were experiencing, Democrats shepherded the bipartisan Education Jobs Act into law, thereby protecting 1,400 education jobs in Nevada. Unfortunately, thousands of teacher jobs are still at stake today. [U.S. Department of Education analysis, [8/6/10](#); National Education Association, [5/10](#)]