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From: **Rep. Tricia Cotham** <Tricia.Cotham@ncleg.net>

To: sjohnston@tueforumclt.org <sjohnston@tueforumclt.org>

Subject: **Proposed State Budget Overview**

Date: Mon, 22 Jul 2013 21:11:06 +0000

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I wanted to send in this information in hopes that it would be helpful to your members.

The proposed NC Budget will be voted on this week. The information below has been agreed upon by leadership in both Chambers. (The bill cannot be amended.) The bill itself is 394 pages and I have tried to provide a general overview below.

Education:

Abolishes teacher tenure

Ends pay increases for Master's Degree

Cuts 4,000 teachers

Cuts 3,800 Teacher Assistants

Reduces allotment for Limited English Proficiency

Phases out the NC Teaching Fellows Program

Phases out the NC Center for Advancement of Teaching

Cuts UNC Need Base Grants

Phases in a merit pay plan for teachers

Provides funding for vouchers

Provides for no raises for teachers

Justice and Public Safety

Closes correctional facilities in Bladen, Duplin, Wayne, Robeson and Western Youth Facility. (685 positions cut)

Closes Lenoir Youth Development Center and Richmond and Buncombe Detention Centers (more than 89 job cuts)

Cuts 50 jobs at Johnson Correctional

Reduces funds for Prisoner Legal Services

Eliminates state grant to Butner

Consolidates District & Prosecutorial Districts 6A and 6B, restructures others

Health:

Cuts \$35 million in mental health

Reduces Oral Health

Cuts preK slots in half

Freezes payment rates

Reduces allowed doctor visits for medicaid recipients

Cuts services for inpatient hospital, dental, optical, podiatry, personal care services, nursing homes

Reduces funds for mental health Rx drugs

Reduces child development services

I will provide more information as I come across it and analyze it. In the meantime, you can express your views to your district representative. I would encourage you to email or call him or her. You can find out to do this by going to our homepage to www.ncleg.net

Thank you,

Representative Tricia Cotham

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