

# THE 2021 SEIU Local 2001 CSEA LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

CSEA SEIU Local 2001 represents over 27,000 active and retired members from diverse backgrounds and a broad array of disciplines. It's time to put working class members like these first as we confront the challenges facing Connecticut. CSEA members are committed to pursuing the following public policy objectives during the General Assembly's 2021 session to begin strengthening the working class.

## A fair budget that increases revenue through taxes on Connecticut's wealthiest residents

-A budget that properly funds public services and the jobs of CSEA members, from state employees to municipal and board of education workers to home-based family child care providers;

-A budget that reverses the trend of short staffing in state agencies, as well as municipalities and boards of education;

-A budget that protects and properly funds retirement benefits earned by CSEA members;

-A budget that increases funding for vital services provided by CSEA members, like the educational programs in our state's prisons; and

-A budget that rejects privatization schemes, funds the State Contracting Standards Board, and moves personal service agreements from the operating expenses budget line to the personnel line to more accurately reflect the cost and number of outside consultants

## Early voting and no excuse vote by mail

Allowing voters to vote early or by mail without an excuse is something Connecticut should have done long ago. CSEA will work with allies to change existing voting laws that hinder the ability of residents to cast votes easily, early, and safely

## Public option for health care

CSEA will join with allies in the General Assembly and Comptroller Kevin Lembo, along with other labor unions and community organizations to guarantee every person in Connecticut has equitable access to affordable, quality health care through a public option

## Workers' Comp presumption for COVID-19

CSEA will work with our brothers and sisters in other SEIU locals and the Connecticut AFL-CIO to enhance and expand Governor Lamont's Executive Order that created a limited workers' comp presumption for workers who contracted COVID-19 on the job



For more information on CSEA SEIU Local 2001's Legislative priorities, please contact our Political Director, Daniel I. Medress by phone at (213) 814-8663 or by email at [DMedress@CSEA760.com](mailto:DMedress@CSEA760.com)

## Pass State Employee Contracts

All state employee collective bargaining agreements and binding arbitration awards must be approved by a vote of the House of Representatives and Senate. CSEA will work to ensure the successful passage of any collective bargaining agreements or binding arbitration awards that are submitted to the General Assembly for approval

### Collective bargaining rights for probate court workers

It is remarkable that there are workers in Connecticut who do not have the right to form a union and exercise their collective bargaining rights. Unfortunately, that is the case for the people who work in Connecticut's probate courts. CSEA will work to pass legislation that gives these workers the rights they deserve

### Require all DOT inspections be done by state employees

By insourcing work currently done by private contractors and consultants, Connecticut can save hundreds of millions of dollars every year. Not only will insourcing save money, but it is also a matter of public safety. Do you want to drive over a bridge built by a low bid contractor that was inspected by a no bid contractor? We should not let the fox guard the hen house

### Paraeducator compensation improvement and career development

Paraeducators are an essential part of the education system, but for too long they have not been treated that way. CSEA will join forces with other union locals in Connecticut that represent paras, to pass legislation that starts the process of dramatically improving the pay, benefits, training, professional development, career opportunities, and working conditions of paras

**COVID-19 made it abundantly clear: the working class is the backbone of our society, especially during times of crisis. Throughout the pandemic it was frontline workers that kept our communities moving and now the legislature must ensure the working class is repaired and our frontline workers financially compensated for their sacrifices.**

**CSEA is a proud member union of several coalitions committed to a fair and progressive tax structure for Connecticut. These groups include Workers for Justice, Bargaining for the Common Good and DUE Justice.**



**For more information on CSEA SEIU Local 2001's Legislative priorities, please contact our Political Director, Daniel I. Medress by phone at (213) 814-8663 or by email at [DMedress@CSEA760.com](mailto:DMedress@CSEA760.com)**