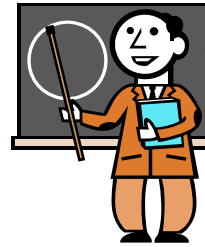


Need a reason to give to Vote-Cope?

The latest from NYSUT:

- ✂ Tier 5 threat returns
- ✂ Union-backed circuit breaker generating support
- ✂ SRPs win access to state's family health plan
- ✂ Voters approve record 97 percent of school budgets
- ✂ 'Dignity for All Students Act' would prohibit harassment
- ✂ Retiree health insurance safe one more year



The latest from Washington:

- ✂ President Obama nominated John McHugh as Secretary of the Army.
- ✂ John McHugh represents the 23rd Congressional District, which includes all or part of 11 counties, including Jefferson and Lewis. John had been endorsed by NYSUT because he is a supporter of education and labor.
- ✂ Possible Republican candidates include: Assemblywoman Dede Scozzafava, R-Gouverneur, Assemblyman William Barclay, R-Pulaski, Sen. Joseph Griffo, R-Utica and Paul Maroun, an aide to Sen. Elizabeth Little, R-Queensbury,
- ✂ Sen. Darrel Aubertine, D-Cape Vincent, has been mentioned as a possible Democratic candidate.

The latest from Albany:

June 8: In a dramatic overthrow of leadership, Senate Republicans joined by two dissident Democrats took control and installed Sen. Espada as president of the Senate. (Mr. Espada has been fined more than \$60,000 for ignoring state law requiring disclosure of campaign contributions.) As Senate president, he would become governor if David Paterson were incapacitated; He said he joined the effort because he wanted to change how Albany does business. Republicans then enacted new rules for the Senate, including imposing six-year term limits for the Senate's leaders and equalizing distribution of the \$85 million the Senate allocates annually for legislative earmarks. Minority Leader Dean Skelos, was returned to the position of majority leader, The Capitol was turned upside down by the move which ends the Democrats' six-month tenure as leaders of the Senate.

June 9: Malcolm Smith and the Republican Senate leader, Dean G. Skelos, were both claiming to be the majority leader. Democrats locked the doors of the Senate chamber, preventing Republicans from gathering there, and refused to turn over the keys, prompting Republicans to threaten to hold a legislative session in the park outside. Gov. David A. Paterson vowed not to leave the state during the crisis and said he still considered Mr. Smith to be the majority leader. It appears that the State Constitution gives Mr. Espada the authority to issue pardons even if Mr. Paterson is merely traveling out of state — potentially even to himself — though there is some dispute about the legal fine points.

June 11: Republicans used a mysterious set of keys to force their way into the Senate chamber for the first time since their leadership coup on Monday. Their vow to resume the session fizzled after one of the two dissident Democrats they were depending on for a quorum, Hiram Monserrate, walked out of the chamber shortly after the proceedings began. By day's end, it was clear that the balance of power in the state's upper house continued to rest in the hands of Mr. Monserrate, who was indicted in March on charges of slashing his female companion with a broken glass. The Senate has already forfeited a week of its legislative session during one of the busiest times of year. While the Senate was a carnival of dysfunction, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver kept the trains running in his chamber passing 129 bills in four days, including legislation that extended wage protections to farm workers.

- ✂ *With Vote-Cope, we gain influence in the political arena.*
Vote-Cope is the non-partisan political action arm of NYSUT, funded entirely by voluntary contributions from members.

- ✂ *Please give to your political action committee, Vote-Cope.*