



MASW
Since 1901

Missouri Association for Social Welfare

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The Welfare of the People Shall be the Supreme Law

June 28, 2010

Statement in Opposition to SB 1 (2010 Special Session)

Hon. Jason Crowell, Chair, and members of the
Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Pensions and Urban Affairs

For the record, my name is Bob Quinn; I am Executive Director of the Missouri Association for Social Welfare. MASW is opposed to SB 1.

When an employee steals from his employer, he or she is usually dismissed, and often prosecuted and imprisoned – especially if the amount stolen is large.

When an employer steals from its employees, those in charge are patted on the back and praised for improving the bottom line – especially if the amount stolen is large.

MASW opposes forcing new state employees to give 4% of their pay for a pension plan when their average salary ranks 50th among the 50 states.

State employees already contribute to their pension, because the state funds 100% of that cost rather than give employees a general across-the-board pay increase.

To not give a raise coupled with a requirement for employee contributions to the pension plan constitutes stealing from state employees, and because you do so in the name of all Missourians, we ask that you not.