Dear Local Member,

Recent developments in the pension system have been highly publicized. While there is some criticism that NJEA has done enough, be clear that NJEA has been to court every year since 2002. During this time, NJEA has lobbied legislators to approve pension funding. Each time, Christie has vetoed those decisions.

Unfortunately, the **SAME LEGISLATORS** who voted to make the payments are the **SAME LEGISLATORS** that **YOU VOTED FOR**, and who did not have the backbone to vote in favor of OVERRIDING the governor's veto. This is politics at it ugliest, and it is clear that pressure needs to be made by **US** - not the leadership - on local legislators.

The current lawsuit, expected to be heard by the Supreme Court in early May, is an attempt to force Governor Christie to make the payments as obligated by his own law.

In the meantime; this is what you and your colleagues **NEED** to do in order to protect **YOUR** pensions.

How to Save Your Pension by Wendell Steinhauer

Here are several things you can do, starting today, to help build on our momentum to save your pension:

- Visit the new <u>FundNJPension</u> organizing website to learn more about pensions and how we can save them.
- While you are there, take a moment to <u>send a message</u> to your legislators.
- Talk to your colleagues who weren't at the meeting on 4/27 about what they can do, and sign up at least <u>five new pension activists</u>. We have power in numbers!
- Hold a <u>10-minute meeting</u> for your colleagues so they can join you in this fight.
- Create a local Pension Action Team, then implement your own Action Plan using these <u>sample materials</u>.
- Make sure that members of your local participate in the <u>Great Twitter Payday Campaign</u> next Thursday, April 30 and every payday after that.
- <u>Send us</u> your organizing success stories, so we can share them with others and help you multiply the impact of your hard work.

Please note: A personal, hand written note/ letter to your legislators is a powerful tool that carries a lot of weight.