

Several proposed bills directly target organized labor and public employee unions. Those measures are listed below. HB 75, SB92 and SB 103 are so-called Right-to work bills. They prohibit employers and employee unions from negotiating fair share agreements requiring nonmembers to pay their fair share costs of representing employees. The first one to be heard will be [HB 75 EMPLOYEE PREFERENCE ACT](#) sponsored by Representative [Dennis J. Roch](#). This measure will be heard in the [Business and Employment Committee](#) of the House on Thursday, January 29 at 8:30 AM. Contact committee members to oppose this anti-worker legislation.

SB93 is a direct attack on public employee unions like NEA-New Mexico. It makes the collection of dues by payroll deduction illegal and is similar to legislation passed in other states, such as Wisconsin, which devastated public employee union membership. When similar legislation passed in Arizona, the Arizona NEA affiliate lost roughly one third of its membership. This legislation has but one purpose, to destroy the influence of public employees and their unions. Contact all senators and let them know that you oppose Senate Bill 93 as an attack on you and your Union!

Bill Number		Sponsor:p>	NEA-New Mexico Position
HB 75	EMPLOYEE PREFERENCE ACT	Dennis J. Roch	Oppose
SB 92	EMPLOYEE PREFERENCE ACT	Sander Rue	Oppose
SB 93	NO PUBLIC EMPLOYEE UNION DUES FROM PAYROLL	Sander Rue	Oppose
SB 103	EMPLOYEE PREFERENCE	William E. Sharer	Oppose

Budget Proposals

In the past there have been at least two competing budget proposals presented at the opening of legislative sessions. Under Democratic control the House Education Committee created an education budget, House bill 3; however, this year that won't happen. The education budget will be crafted by the [House Appropriations and Finance Committee](#) as a part of creating [House Bill 2](#). The Legislative Finance Committee, an interim committee of the legislature also proposed a budget. [This link compares that proposal with that of the Governor](#). However, most early proposals were based on a changing revenue picture. Early projections of \$280 million new general fund dollars were reduced to \$145 million at the start of the legislature and are likely to be greatly reduced when new revenue forecasts are produced in response to falling oil prices. Some on the appropriations committees fear that the new dollars may drop to near zero before the budget is actually passed!