Senate Republicans ramped up their attack on state workers by releasing their budget and calling for even greater concessions than the $1.5 billion of state employee concessions that were agreed during months of talks between SEBAC and the governor’s administration. This is nothing but a test book example of bad faith bargaining. And to throw salt in the wound, it comes after state worker sacrifices have already save Connecticut billions of dollars since the 2011 SEBAC Agreement.  

Speaking to reporters, Senate Republican President Pro Tempore Len Fasano said if the Republican’s budget proposals and demands for further SEBAC concessions were refused, then his party would move onto Plan B: changing state statutes to and collective bargaining rights for Connecticut workers. Fasano claimed the plan would achieve nearly $2.2 billion in savings without union consent once state statutes are changed to suit their agenda that would hurt tens of thousands of Connecticut working families.

The Senate Republican plan would:

- **Suspend or eliminate** arbitration of wages for unionized employees;
- **Require greater increases** (than what has already been agreed to with SEBAC leaders) in worker contributions toward retirement health care and require more years of service before receiving the benefit;
- **Triple all employees’** pension contributions;
- **Replace** overtime pay with comp time.

House Republican Minority Leader Themis Klarides, a lawyer who represents Republican House Minority Leader asked rhetorically. “How is anyone supposed to cut these funds. It’s understandable that that money would not be available, but there’s no reason for denying the students access to the remaining pool.

Legislators are unlikely to reach a budget agreement before the end of the regular session, which ends at midnight on June 7. A special session will be called to complete work on the state’s budget. But an exact date is yet to be confirmed. Leaders said they expect to reach a budget agreement before June 30, which is the end of the fiscal year. If a new budget is not adopted by that time, the Governor could manage the state according to the previous budget and could additionally exercise recession authority to cut certain individual line items. While Republicans have been involved all along in bi-partisan budget negotiations, it is unclear if they will participate going forward.

A Dream Turned PR Nightmare:

A dream turned into a public relations nightmare after the arrest in early May of a key CT Students for a Dream organizer.

AAUP remains a supporter of Dreamers and everyone’s right to follow their dreams and exercise their authority over their own lives. To see a video of the Republican press conference on CT-T, click here.

**(posturing and obscenities?**:

**Time’s a Thief—Special Session Here We Come:**

Given the federal government’s position on the undocumented, it’s understandable that that money would not be available, but there’s no reason for denying the students access to the remaining pool. Click here for a list of all bills reported out of the Higher Education Committee this session.