Public employees, the bigger picture.

New York State School for the Blind – No other school in the state provides the educational necessities of an appropriate environment and educational programs tailored specifically to the needs of visually impaired children. PEF members are proud to play a role in the success of the school.

Our state workforce: A valuable asset in today's market.

Kenneth Brynien
PEF President

Finding ways to save money, cut costs and do more with less is at the forefront of discussions among state lawmakers as the governor and Legislature struggle to close a $7 billion deficit.

The New York State Public Employees Federation (PEF) recognizes the financial challenges that lie ahead; which is why, now more than ever, New Yorkers need to be reminded of the value of the state workforce. Simply put — public servants provide the best value for our tax dollars. It is a fact the private sector wants to keep private.

Fortunately, new laws have provided transparency and, for the first time, we are all seeing the price tag the state is paying for contracting out. We now know at least 31,000 consultants worked for the state in fiscal year 2007-08. And, in just one example of the waste, the state Insurance Department paid a private contractor $189.29 an hour for work that one of our professionals could have done for $48.48 an hour, including benefits.

There are ways to save taxpayer dollars. The state can start by relying less on private contractors and more on its public servants.

PEF is proud to represent 59,000 highly skilled public servants who are professionals on the job every day in every part of the state, providing the highest quality service at the most reasonable cost.

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