

LABOR/TAYLOR LAW

Weingarten Rights

- S.3071-A, Robach - PASSED
- A.5984-A, Abbate - PASSED
- Delivered to the Governor - 7/6
- **SIGNED 7/18 - CHAPTER 244.**

This legislation makes it an improper employer practice for a public employer to interfere with an employee's right to representation and to fail to permit representation by a representative of the employee organization or a designee of such employee organization, during questioning by his or her employer when it reasonably appears that the interview might result in disciplinary action.

Leave for Breast/Prostate Screening

- S.5181-B, Morahan
- A.6112-D, Brodsky
- UPDATE 6/22: Delivered to the Governor
- **UPDATE SIGNED 7/3 - CHAPTER 111.**

This bill provides employees of school districts, and county and municipal employees around the state a maximum of four hours excused leave annually to obtain a screening for prostate cancer. In addition, this bill provides these employees around the state a maximum of four hours excused leave annually to obtain a screening for breast cancer.

Leave for Donating Blood

- **UPDATE 8/15: SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR CHAPTER #578**

This legislation requires employers with twenty or more employees to provide up to three hours of leave annually for employees to donate blood.

Right of Nursing Mothers to Express Breast Milk

- **UPDATE 8/15: SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR CHAPTER #574**

This legislation requires employers to provide reasonable unpaid break time or permit usage of paid break or meal time each day for nursing mothers to express breast milk for up to three years following the birth of her child. Employers are further required to make reasonable efforts to provide a room or other location near the work area for employees to express milk in privacy.

SCHOOL-RELATED PROFESSIONALS

School-Related Professionals Recognition Day

- A.274-B, Clark - PASSED
- S.911-B, DeFrancisco - PASSED
- Delivered to the Governor 7/6

- **SIGNED 7/18 - CHAPTER 278.**

The 2007 legislative session can be considered an historic event for NYSUT's School-Related Professionals as the New York State SRP Recognition Day bill (A.274-B/S.911-B) passed both the senate and assembly. The action on this bill is significant for two reasons: First, up until this year the only legislative recognition SRPs got for their hard and, often thankless, work was a legislative resolution from both houses. Second, the bill has neither gotten out of the Assembly Governmental Operations committee nor had a senate sponsor. The bill will be delivered to the Governor and we remain hopeful that he will sign it into law.

IDEA Compliance Reauthorization

- A.9273, Nolan - PASSED
- S.6361, Saland - PASSED
- Delivered to the Governor 7/6
- **SIGNED 7/18 - CHAPTER 378.**

This legislation implements the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004. The bill would allow parents and school districts to agree (or consent) in writing to the excusal of a required member of the IEP team from attending a meeting to discuss a preschool or school age student's individualized education program. School districts would be required to provide written input of an excused member whose curriculum or related service is being discussed five calendar days prior to the IEP meeting date. Parents would also retain the right to request and/or agree to excuse a member of the special education committee when an IEP team member is unable to attend the meeting because of an emergency or unavoidable scheduling conflict. The proposed legislation would also allow the parent and school district to agree to change a student's IEP after the annual review without holding an IEP team meeting. Parents would be afforded the right to consult with the child's teacher or related service provider to discuss the proposed changes, and to receive a copy of the amended IEP without needing to request it.