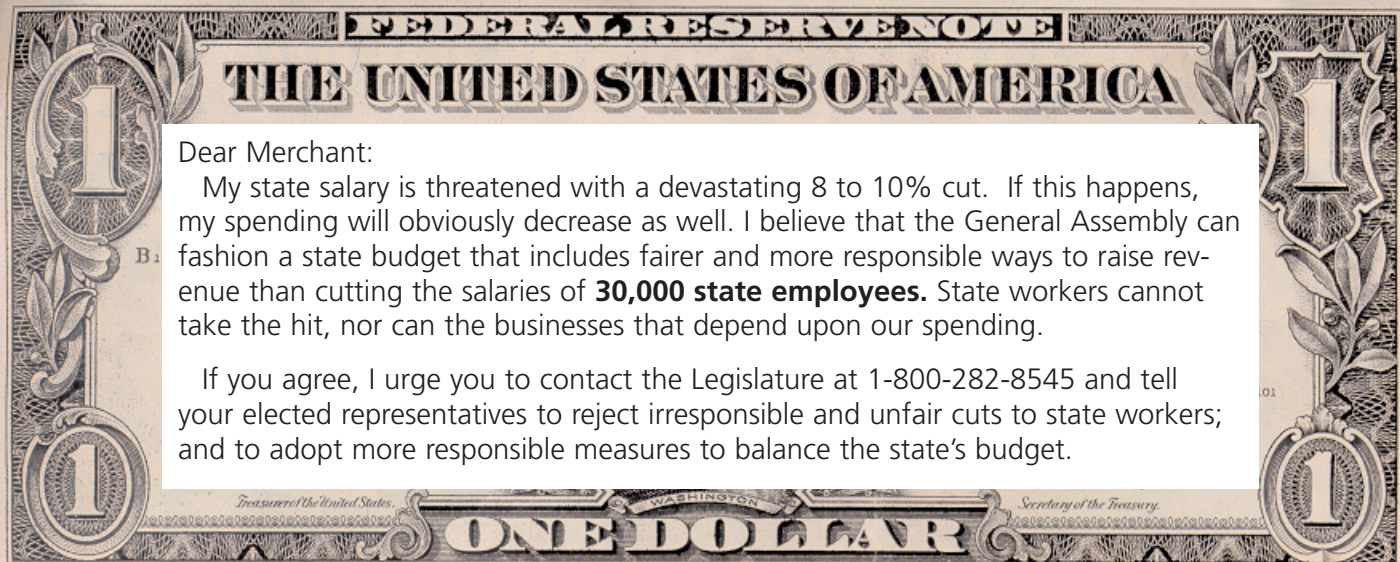


Dear Merchant:

B. My state salary is threatened with a devastating 8 to 10% cut. If this happens, my spending will obviously decrease as well. I believe that the General Assembly can fashion a state budget that includes fairer and more responsible ways to raise revenue than cutting the salaries of **30,000 state employees**. State workers cannot take the hit, nor can the businesses that depend upon our spending.

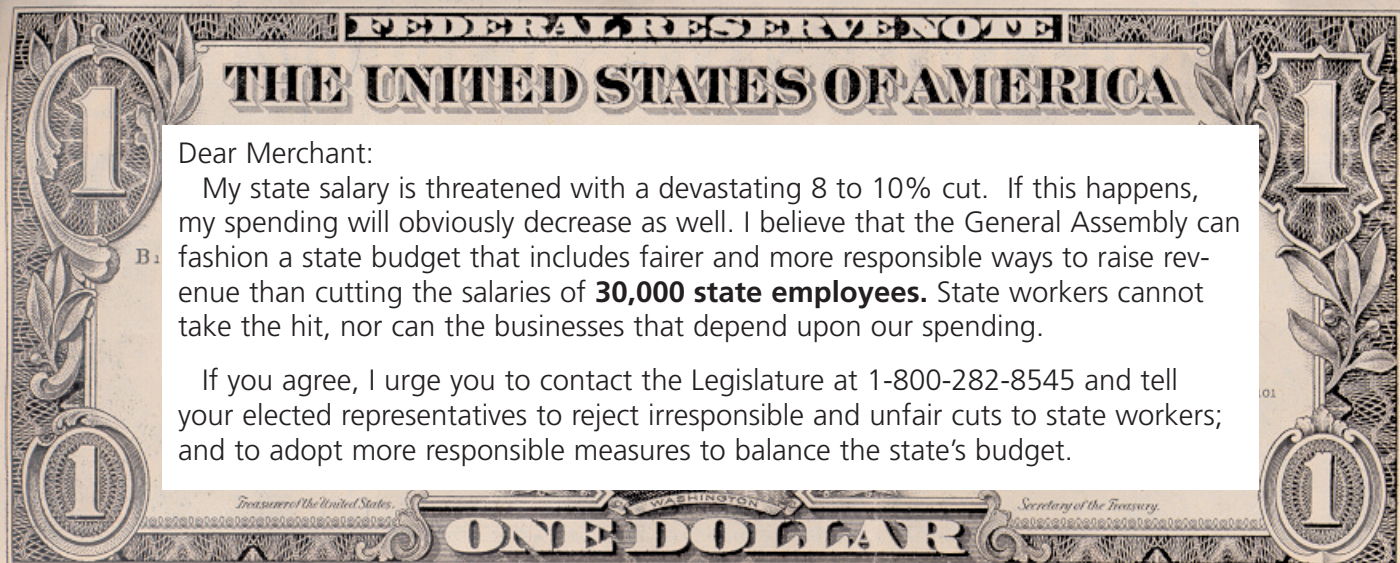
If you agree, I urge you to contact the Legislature at 1-800-282-8545 and tell your elected representatives to reject irresponsible and unfair cuts to state workers; and to adopt more responsible measures to balance the state's budget.



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