



M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

March 9, 2009

Dear Fellow State Employee,

As you all are aware, the economy is in a recession and the State's budget is in dire circumstances. I have taken many steps to attempt to alleviate the necessity of layoffs this year, including deficit mitigation plans, a hiring freeze and spending cuts. The closer we come to the end of the year without the Legislature passing a meaningful deficit mitigation plan, the harder that becomes.

However, one more step I would like to try is encouraging the use of the voluntary schedule reduction program by all employees between now and June 1. This program is authorized by Section 5-248c of the General Statutes, and is administered through the Department of Administrative Services and the Office of Labor Relations.

Under this program, employees may reduce their work schedules with unpaid leave, without affecting their other benefits. Your participation in this program is entirely voluntary and I understand that each of your personal situations may be different.

I have asked Agency Heads to approve requests of employees for Voluntary Schedule Reductions that do not result in overtime costs for others or have a significant impact on critical services.

These are difficult economic times for our state and its residents. Working together we can help avoid state employee layoffs or increasing the burden on the hard-pressed families and businesses of Connecticut.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Jodi Rell".

M. Jodi Rell
Governor