

SALARY CUTS TO CUSHION LAYOFF BLOW



A 6.9% reduction in Nevada's state-wide K-12 education budget was approved by legislators in a special session on Sunday. Exact layoff figures were not given, simply a promise of reduced numbers if a 2-4% salary decrease went into effect. "We have talked about the need for a 'shared sacrifice,'" said Joyce Haldeman, the district's associate superintendent of government relations. "We could save many jobs if they do that." The impact of the loss in state-wide funding could be more than 2,300 teachers in Clark County, said Superintendent Walt Rulfes. Senate Majority Leader Steven Horsford, D-Las Vegas, said when the next regular session in February of 2011 begins, the state budget may be short by as much as \$3.4 billion. "We leave Carson City saying thank you Legislature, thank you governor, but the real cliff comes next February. That is when the tough decisions start," said Chancellor Dan Klaich.

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