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## VERMONT TO LAY OFF 420 STATE WORKERS



Vermont's Republican Governor Jim Douglas has been unable to strike a deal with the Vermont State Employees Association over labor concessions he claims would have averted 420 layoffs. The governor sought 5% salary cuts, and increases in health premia for state workers earning at least \$30,000. Labor leaders say they have already conceded all they can in previous agreements. The layoff process will begin tomorrow, and will finish by the start of the new fiscal year July 1st.

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