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Monday, April 4, 2011

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## **MI School Employees Praise Court Ruling Upholding Constitution, Blocking Unfair Wage Grab**

LANSING – Michigan public school employees today praised Judge James Giddings ruling that prevents the state from taking 3 percent of a school employee’s wages to pay for future retiree health care without any guarantee that current employees will receive this benefit. Judge Giddings struck down the law requiring such payment, calling it “unconstitutional.”

**American Federation of Teachers Michigan President David Hecker** said: “AFT Michigan initiated this lawsuit on behalf of our affected members and we were gratified to see that the judge completely concurred with our argument in finding this action by the Legislature ‘quintessentially arbitrary and unreasonable.’ Current employees should not have to pay this assessment without any assurance that they will receive health care when they retire.”

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