



A lone voice in the wilderness struggles to be heard while 30,000 voices raised as one is deafening.

To: CCPOA Board of Directors
All CCPOA Supervisory Members

September 22, 2010

From: CCPOA Supervisory Vice President,
Kevin Raymond

Subject: Update on Issues Concerning Supervisory Members

Dear Supervisory Member,

If you need any evidence to demonstrate just how important the upcoming election is to our profession you need to look further than Meg Whitman's quotes (below) over the last two days. I seriously doubt that this is a coincidence considering we just came out in support of Jerry Brown for Governor. If her quotes are in fact coincidence then I personally am glad we are not supporting her.

Monday September 20, 2010

Meg Whitman talks pensions, prisons, unions with Bee editorial board

Republican gubernatorial candidate Meg Whitman told The Sacramento Bee editorial board this morning that, if elected, she'll negotiate with the three biggest public employee unions to create 401(k)-style retirement plans for new state workers.

She also said she would "take a whack" at reining in the state's prison costs, including moving prisoners to other states and cutting prison health care costs.

She added that she would seek pension reforms for prison guards and other public safety employees. Whitman also said she could see building another prison if elected governor but would try to avoid building a new "death row" prison.

"Part of the reason we find ourselves in the situation we now find ourselves in is we had banked on a very high investment portfolio return, which didn't materialize, and now we are on the hook for defined benefits, very generous defined benefits, to not only the prison guards but all the others," Whitman said. "We have got to renegotiate these benefits. And I will negotiate in good faith with all the different unions."

In response to a question from the editorial board, Whitman also said she wanted to "look at what the opportunities are for privatizing the prisons."

Tuesday September 21, 2010 Sacramento Bee

Republican gubernatorial nominee Meg Whitman said Monday that she would place pension cutbacks on the ballot if negotiations with state workers fail and would consider using her personal fortune not only to win office but also to advance her agenda if elected.

Whitman wants to raise the retirement age for most state employees, increase employee contributions and put new hires on 401(k)-style retirement plans instead of defined-benefit pensions. She would exempt public safety workers, but not prison guards, from the 401(k) approach.

Taking the issue to voters is "not my first choice," she told The Bee's editorial board. "But if we have to ... this is an issue we have got to take up."

The former eBay CEO and billionaire said she "possibly" would put her own money behind a ballot measure campaign.

"My preference would be to raise the money, would be to, you know, make sure that we had a broad constituency," she said.

Whitman also said the extension of collective bargaining rights to state workers in 1977 was "probably not a good thing."

We proved what we are capable of in the primary in Senate District 40; with four institutions in that district we turned the tide. It's time to do so again in the Governors race. Its time to show that money can buy a lot of things, but our silence regarding the rights and working conditions of Correctional Peace Officers as well as our livelihood is not one of them.

As more information becomes available on these and other issues I will continue to update you.

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