



Every year, thousands of public employees are victims of workplace violence, and tens of thousands are at risk.

The NYS Public Employees Federation is joining with other public employee unions and other organizations in a statewide campaign to “Stop Workplace Violence”. Regardless of where you work, getting punched, kicked, or otherwise abused is NOT part of the job!

Effectuated workers suffer severe psychological trauma as well as physical injuries. In most cases, family members are also traumatized as they fear for the well being of a loved one, and worry about their safety at work. Too many members are unable to continue working and as a result of these assaults.

The goals of the campaign are both legislative and worksite-based. Last year, an excellent state law that would have directed all employers to evaluate their workplace for the risk of workplace violence and develop appropriate prevention measures was passed by the legislature and vetoed by the governor. That bill has been reintroduced and is making its way through the legislature, along with two other bills.

Meanwhile, we are working to develop or improve worksite-based prevention programs.

## **What is to be done?**

### **At the worksite...**

Meet with management through labor/ management, health and safety, or environment of care committees. Establish a workgroup, task force, or project improvement team to develop a comprehensive assessment of the risk of workplace violence at the worksite. Look at injury data, hold focus groups of workers, survey the workforce, evaluate the work environment, and take action to prevent violence.

**Advocate with legislators and get the Governor to sign the bill....**

## WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION BILL

S6441 Spano / A9691 John

Requires all public employers to evaluate their workplaces to determine the presence of risk factors that may lead to violence in the workplace.

Public employers with more than 20 employees are required to implement a written program to prevent violence in the workplace. This will include a listing of risk factors and methods to reduce these risks.

## JUDI SCANLON BILL

S207 Maziarz/ A2570 Hoyt

Directs that an OMH employee who is required to enter the residence of a person with serious mental illness can request to be accompanied by another employee for safety reasons. Requires that OMH provide to all intensive case managers annual training in safety and the prevention of violence and a mobile telephone. Requires that OMH provide enough staff so that each intensive case manager will have a caseload of no more than 12 patients.

## THE WORKPLACE INJURY DISCLOSURE AND ACCOUNTABILITY BILL

S6480 Robach / A9692 John

Amends the Civil Service Law to require that State Department of Civil Service prepare an annual report about injury rates among state employees due to workplace injuries in State agencies and the costs incurred by the State as a result of those injuries.



*Cathy Seguin, RN was brutally beaten by a patient at a state psychiatric hospital.*

New York State Public Employees Federation, AFL-CIO  
1168-70 Troy-Schenectady Road  
Latham, New York 12110  
(518)785-1900 or (800)342-4306

**Kenneth Brynien, President**

**Arlea Igoe, Secretary-Treasurer**