

Sick Leave for Employees Costs State \$22 Million

Capitol News Service
SACRAMENTO—California state employees take five times as much sick leave as do employees in manufacturing and this has been increasing for the past four years, the California Taxpayers' Association has reported.

The CTA said state civil service employees (excluding university and colleges) took an average of 7.9 days sick leave, at an estimated cost to the state of \$22,180,000, or about \$220 for each employee.

the same period showed the average cost per employe was \$84.

Planners to Meet

A special meeting of the Lomita Planning Commission has been called for 7 p.m. tomorrow. The meeting has been called to discuss a proposed ordinance which would permit residents to conduct certain types of businesses from private homes.

What was given initially as a benefit only for those unfortunate enough to be ill, has become regarded as an absolute right," Robert C. Brown, executive vice president at Cal-Tax said. "Many employes now feel it is mandatory to be sick so they can use up sick leave."

Board to Meet

The Joint Powers Board responsible for the operation of the Southern California Regional Occupational Center will meet tonight at 7:30. The meeting is scheduled in the board room at the Torrance Unified School District offices, 2335 Plaza del Amo.

California state employees are entitled to one day of sick leave for each month of active service, with no limitation as to the total number of days that may be accrued. The CTA said only 12 California counties and few cities provide unlimited sick leave.

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Battle on Abortion Law Seen

Renewed efforts to liberalize the state's 100-year-old abortion laws may precipitate a "real battle" in Sacramento, Senator Ralph C. Dills (D-32nd District) said today.

Dills, writing in a weekly report to constituents, said mail to his office indicates "that the people are opposed to a change, although by a small margin."

Twin bills have been introduced in the Senate and the Assembly and the authors of the measure have expressed the belief the bills will be passed. A statewide poll taken last year showed a majority of people favor changes.

UNDER PRESENT law, abortions are forbidden except when required to have the mother's life.

The proposed changes would permit abortions in a hospital where pregnancy is the result of rape or incest, when there is substantial risk that continuance of the pregnancy would gravely impair the physical or mental health of the mother, or when there is substantial risk of a child being born with grave physical or mental defects.

BACKERS OF the new law include the California Medical Association, the State Board of Public Health, the State Bar Association, the California Church Council, and several grand juries.

Despite the imposing array of support, Dill said that mail he has received on the subject "does not particularly bear out the assertions of the authors that the time is ripe for a change."

Enrollment Opens for Extension

Enrollments are still being accepted for a class in "English for Teachers: Composition," which will meet for 12 Wednesdays from 7 to 9:15 p.m. in Room 319 at Wilson High School in Long Beach.

While emphasizing mechanical correctness and effectiveness of expression in composition, the class is helpful in eliminating habit errors in speech and writing.

Enrollment information is available from University of California Extension at North High, 3620B W. 182nd St.

Speech Contest Finalist Named

Lynn Curtis, newly elected president of the South High Chapter of the National Forensic League, has been selected a finalist in the Lions Club speech contest.

Curtis will represent the Torrance Lions Club in area competition next Tuesday. He will speak on the subject, "Peace Is Attainable."

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