

## DISCLAIMER

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I am Lynn Warne - a 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher in Washoe County for the last 15 years and currently the President of the Washoe Education Association.

I will also be affected by the Social Security Offset – having earned enough credits to receive Social Security benefits before I started my teaching career. Without a change, my benefits will be almost inconsequential to my retirement – an unfortunate situation – all because of where I live.

Like me, many of our teachers had careers before going into education and will suffer the same loss of Social Security benefits. But as we are now facing a teacher shortage in our State, we must try and attract educators from all quarters – including the folks who fall into this “second career” category.

Many are reluctant to choose education, however, because of the loss of their Social Security benefits. We had a woman call our office the other day, asking if it was true that her Social Security benefits would be reduced by two-thirds if she was to start teaching and retire from our District. Unfortunately, it was indeed true. She said that she would need to re-evaluate her decision and may have to choose another job in the private sector.

We cannot afford to discourage anyone seriously considering a career in education. Our starting salaries are enough of a deterrent – we don't need to cut their Social Security benefits too. I urge your support of AJR 3.