



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**WASHINGTON TEACHERS' UNION TODAY COMMENDS COUNCILMEMBER MARION BARRY FOR  
OPPOSING COUNCILMEMBER CATANIA'S PROPOSED PENSION LEGISLATION**

**Washington, DC** – Washington Teachers' Union (WTU) today commends Councilmember Marion Barry for publicly announcing his opposition to fellow Councilmember David Catania's Pension Protection and Sustainability Amendment Act of 2011. This legislation would reduce the pension of not only teachers, but policeman and fireman alike.

Pension benefits in the District remain among the lowest in the nation. WTU along with other DC City Councilmembers, the Metropolitan Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services Departments, joined Barry as he expressed his opposition to this legislation. In short, Catania's proposed legislation would change the way the District calculates its cost-of-living adjustments and also ties local cost of living increases to eligibility for social security retirement benefits.

"WTU is grateful that Councilmember Barry listened to our strong opposition and has joined our collective efforts to protect well-deserved compensation benefits for hard-working, dedicated and deserving pillars of our community," stated WTU President Nathan Saunders. "This legislation would ultimately hurt, not help our city's economy. WTU is committed to maintaining the current benefit level for present and future WTU retirees."

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