

One-Term Tom

Tom Corbett is one of the most unpopular governors in the country, and for good reason. He's been bad for Pennsylvania's schools, kids, and teachers, bad for poor people needing healthcare, and he's tried to harm workers, unions and the right to vote.

Some Republicans in Harrisburg have introduced a so-called "right-to-work" bill to weaken unions and drive down wages. So far it hasn't gone far in the legislature, but Corbett has promised that he'll sign it into law if it ever reaches his desk.

When Corbett took office in 2011, he almost immediately slashed \$1 billion from public schools. As a result, 70 percent of school districts had to increase class sizes, 44 percent cut extracurricular activities and 35 percent eliminated tutoring programs. Thousands of teachers and other school workers were laid off. Every school district in the state was hit, but low-income districts were hit hardest.

In his first budget Corbett also proposed a 50 percent cut in funding for Pennsylvania's public colleges and universities. Legislators in his own party rebelled, and Corbett had to settle for only 19 percent in cuts. But this resulted in programs eliminated, larger class sizes, and tuition going up every year.

Every state where gas is fracked collects a severance tax from the companies pumping huge profits out of the ground - except Pennsylvania. Over 20 years, Corbett's "no-tax-fracks" policy will cost Pennsylvania \$24 billion in lost revenue, and it's one of the reasons education is being cut so deeply.

Corbett rejected Medicaid expansion, even though it's almost entirely funded by the federal government. He thereby deprived 800,000 Pennsylvanians of medical coverage, including 90,000 children.

In 2012 the Republican legislature passed a "voter ID law," which Corbett signed into law, claiming it was needed to stop "voter fraud." The state later admitted that there was no voter fraud. Corbett had no real plan to provide photo IDs to non-drivers, and around 1 million voters would have lost their voting rights. His real motive was revealed by House Majority Leader Mike Turzai, who told a 2012 Republican gathering that the ID law "will allow Governor Romney to win the state of Pennsylvania." In January 2014 a judge permanently struck down this law, saying it was "violative of the constitutional rights of state voters."



The Corbett governorship has been a nightmare for Pennsylvania, but we can end it if all UE members, our families and friends vote on November 4.

