



## **NEWS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Tennessee's teachers commend continued K-12 funding**

Nashville, TN (Tuesday, February 2, 2010) - In yesterday's State of the State speech, Governor Phil Bredesen recognized the Tennessee Education Association (TEA) and the state's teachers for their dedication to students in Tennessee. The governor pledged that his 2011 budget would continue to fully fund the Basic Education Program (BEP) and the increased contribution to the state pension system as recommended by state actuaries.

"TEA appreciates the governor's recognition and his determination to fully fund K-12 education and the state retirement system in Tennessee," said TEA Executive Director Al Mance. "Gov. Bredesen's commitment to funding K-12 education shows how much he cares about students and the future of Tennessee. It also demonstrates his recognition that investing in K-12 education is essential to Tennessee's economic development and the state's future."

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*The Tennessee Education Association is the state's largest professional organization representing over 55,000 elementary and secondary teachers, school administrators, education support professionals, higher education faculty, and students preparing to become teachers.*