

# **Classified Service Public Hearing Minutes**

**March 21, 2008**

**Public Hearing Agenda # 238**

**Mr. Salvatore Lombardi:**

**I represent AFSCME Local 2884 , I represent seventeen State agencies in Rhode Island State Government. First of all I would like to complain in reference to the day that this Public Hearing is being held. It is an inappropriate day because many people have this day off because it is a religious holiday and I'm sure they would like to have their thoughts aired at this Public forum but since it is a religious holiday their not able because of their day off.**

**Number 2: I feel it is inappropriate that two new positions are being chosen and brought before**

**The State Government since so many people are laid off, so many people are bumped out of their jobs, so many people have lost their jobs as a result of fiscal crisis. These two positions are a couple of kings on the chess board when we need the pawns to go out into the field, their the ones that are making Government work, their the ones that go out and collect the revenue. These people are just behind the scenes collecting the big pay checks an especially at this time of year**

**when all this crisis is going on, people that have lost their job. I have one, I can't mention the person's name, I have one member, was brought to my attention this week that they were contemplating suicide because the loss in pay, going from one job to another because of the fiscal crisis. They had to get this person in counseling because they could not meet their bills**

**in their home. I think it is very inappropriate that anyone can suggest that we need positions right now. Right now Government is working somebody is doing this job, someone is making it work we do not need two new positions. That is all I have to say.**