

Paraguayan Teachers Protest as President Vetoes Pension Increase



Asunción, May 29 (PL-RHC) -- Paraguayan President Horacio Cartes vetoed a resolution approved by the local Congress, which increases the pension income for teachers, so teachers immediately announced the start of protests and emergency measures.

The resolution had received positive sanction in the two chambers of the Paraguayan Parliament but since its approval, the Paraguayan Finance Ministry announced the President's veto, as Cartes considered it would collapse the funds for payment of the government's state treasury safebox.

The proposal now has to go back to the Paraguayan Senate where it needs to get two thirds of the votes of Senate members, and then to the Deputy Chamber.

If it does not get the right number of votes in the Senate or in the Deputy Chamber, the pension income increase will remain totally vetoed, with the corresponding filing of the document.

As soon as the the teachers trade unions knew about the President's decision, they started urgent meetings, to approve a plan for demonstration against the decision.

The secretary general of the National Teachers Union of Paraguay, Eladio Benitez, assured that if Cartes' veto is not rejected in the Congress, the Paraguayan government should get ready to face the greatest workers' strike in the history of the nation.

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