

## A SLIPPERY SLOPE AND A CRITICAL VOTE—Marcia Newfield

Once a legislative body votes to do away with a right or a commitment, it is an easy slip to deprive its constituents of more and more. I am a retired adjunct; I taught for 30 years, was a VP of PSC part timers, and when I retired at age 80, I was still not eligible for city retiree health insurance which we had fought so hard to get for active employees. Adjuncts, the CUNY 11,000 plus low paid college teaching force, is inextricably connected to the defunding of CUNY, which is a chronic problem that legislation has not completely addressed. Yet you could & the state could & the federal government could more fully support higher education, just as you, City Council, could hold hearings as suggested by the Move the Money campaign, on the cost an 8 billion dollar federal military budget wrecks on our communities. This brings me to my second point: namely, that you have the power to cast a critical vote to maintain the city's agreement to provide insurance for retired full time city employees. Your votes make a difference in people's lives—abortion rights/prohibiting housing discrimination based on race/ childcare/ paid sick leave/ landmark preservation. You have the power to pierce through obfuscation and do the right thing once again. You could also include retired adjuncts this time.

Marcia Newfield

Retiree

Professional Staff Congress