
LETTERS**Cuts in earned benefits
hurts retired workers.**

As you noted in a recent article, ("Focus on GE health plan," April 22) health insurance benefits for General Electric retirees are diminishing, even though GE's corporate profits continue to soar. We also recently saw Gov. Andrew Cuomo attempt to reduce benefits for certain government retirees as part of the state budget. Thankfully, the Legislature rejected that ill-advised attempt.

The reality is: Once an employee retires, he or she relies on those earned benefits during retirement. This is not a handout. On the contrary, those benefits were earned over a lifetime of employment.

What has happened to GE retirees, as well as retirees of certain other corporations, is a national disgrace. Benefits should not be diminished for those who have already retired. If changes need to be made, they should apply only to future retirees, so that current employees are fully aware of benefits that will be available in their retirement years.

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