

THE MEA TRIANGLE:

How tax dollars intended for education end up supporting MEA political activity

Mackinac Center for
Public Policy, 1993

- 1 Parents and other citizens provide school districts money to educate children.
- 2 MEA bargaining representatives pressure school districts to purchase unusually generous MESSA insurance packages. School Boards face the threat of illegal teacher strikes that disrupt children's education.
- 3 School districts that give in to MEA demands pay premiums to MESSA.
- 4 MESSA pays the MEA for "marketing" services, i.e., to pressure school districts to purchase MESSA insurance.
- 5 MESSA holds tens of millions of dollars in "reserves," and shares facilities, equipment and personnel with the MEA.
- 6 After withholding unusually high administration fees, MESSA forwards premiums to Blue Cross/Blue Shield, the actual insurance underwriter.
- 7 MESSA pays MEDNA for data processing and other services.

