



Louisiana Retired Teachers Association

LRTA 2011 Legislative Survey

The Louisiana Retired Teachers Association (LRTA) adopts a list of legislative priorities each year. This list contains items that support the granting of permanent benefit increases, maintaining the financial integrity of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL), and protecting the benefit structure offered by the retirement system. Although LRTA does not endorse or monetarily support candidates for public office, the association remains keenly interested in receiving support from elected officials on issues that are important to maintaining and improving the benefits needed to secure dignity and independence in retired life. LRTA would like to obtain your feelings about four issues that may come up during the 2011 Regular Legislative Session. Please take a minute to respond to the questions outlined below.

Please return this survey by September 30, 2011 in the envelope provided or by faxing it to the LRTA office at 225.927.8838.

1. Current law, specifically R.S. 11: 883.1., establishes the Employee Experience Account from which periodic permanent benefit increases (PBIs) are granted to retired educators. Payments are made based upon balances in the account, actuarial returns on investments, the funded percentage of the retirement system and inflation as determined by the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers—CPI-U.

- Will you support efforts to provide PBIs to retired educators from the Employee Experience Account?
____Yes ____No If not, please explain why.

2. LRTA opposes any action that would consolidate TRSL with any other retirement system, and also opposes any action that would consolidate the assets of TRSL with any other retirement system.

- Will you support the consolidation of any of the state retirement systems, specifically TRSL, or its assets, with any other retirement system? ____Yes ____No If yes, please explain why.

3. LRTA opposes the creation of a defined contribution retirement plan for newly employed teachers. Retirement benefits for public employees in Louisiana are not integrated with Social Security. Additionally, the funding stream to the Teachers' Retirement System would be greatly impacted if employee contributions to the defined benefit plan currently offered by TRSL were eliminated as a revenue source. LRTA is of the opinion that a defined contribution retirement plan for teachers is bad public policy.

- Will you support the creation of a defined contribution retirement plan for newly employed teachers?
____Yes ____No If yes, please explain why.

4. LRTA opposes the sale or privatization of the Office of Group Benefits. LRTA is of the opinion that using one-time revenues from the sale of a state program which is operating efficiently and effectively is also not good public policy.

- Do you support the sale or privatization of the Office of Group Benefits?
____Yes ____No If yes, please explain why.

Signature

Date