



FEDERAL ISSUES

Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP)

- » The Government Pension Offset (GPO) and Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) are Social Security provisions which impact individuals who have chosen to serve their school boards, towns, cities, counties and states in public jobs. These provisions reduce retired public employee's individual Social Security and survivor benefits. The GPO and WEP unfairly penalizes retirees receiving a public pension and creates financial hardship for retirees.
- » The GPO eliminates or reduces the spousal benefit by two-thirds the value of a teacher's retirement benefit. This reduction occurs whether the Social Security receiving spouse is alive, deceased, or divorced.
- » The WEP reduces Social Security benefits that teachers have paid for through Social Security payroll taxes from their time working in the private sector.
- » The GPO and WEP reduces or eliminates an additional source of retirement income for these retirees. This halts the potential economic impact retirees could have on their local, state and national economies.
- » States directly affected by the GPO and WEP include Alaska, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Missouri, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Rhode Island, and Texas
- » For retirees who are impacted by the GPO and/or WEP, these provisions are applied to them no matter which state they live in.
- » LRTA continues to support any and all repeal of the GPO and WEP.

For the latest information on the efforts to repeal the GPO and WEP visit www.ssfairness.org or www.lrtanet.net/gpo-and-wep.



**LOUISIANA RETIRED
TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**