"STRIVING TO MAKE RETIREMENT YEARS GREAT!"

Although the Louisiana Retired Teachers Association (LRTA) does not endorse 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 thoughts concerning its legislative priorities and share them with our membership so they can make informed decisions in the voting booth.

LRTA adopts a list of legislative priorities each year. This list contains items that support the granting of permanent benefit increases (PBIs), maintaining the financial integrity of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL), and protecting the benefit structure offered by the retirement system. Please take a moment to respond to the questions below.

Please return the signed survey **as soon as possible** to the LRTA office. Our mailing address is: 9412 Common St., Suite 5 Baton Rouge, LA 70809

You may also return this survey by fax (225-927-8838) or email (info@lrta.net).

1.	LRTA supports the new COLA law (Act 184) that grants COLAs when funds become available. To preserve the buying power of retirees' basic benefits, do you support this new COLA legislation?
	Yes No If no, please explain why on the back of this page.
2.	LRTA opposes any legislation that would alter the defined benefit structure of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL). During previous legislative sessions, several bills were created to switch the current defined benefit plan provided by TRSL to a hybrid plan. LRTA continues to oppose these bills, because they do not produce a benefit equal to or better than our current retirement plan? If similar bills appeared in future legislative sessions, would you oppose or veto these bills?
	Yes No If no, please explain why on the back of this page
3.	LRTA opposes constitutional conventions that would remove budgetary protections for education and retirement. If constitutional convention is proposed in a future legislative session, would you oppose or veto these bills?
	Yes No If no, please explain why on the back of this page.
4.	LRTA supports the repeal of the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). The GPO and the WEP are Social Security federal provisions that reduce retired public employee's individua Social Security and survivor benefits. Retired teachers in Louisiana are subject to the GPO and WEP. Given the opportunity, would you support the repeal of the GPO and WEP?
	Yes No If no, please explain why on the back of this page.
5.	LRTA supports teacher and support staff pay raises and adequately funding education through the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP). Do you support teacher pay raises <u>and</u> adequately funding education through the MFP?
	Yes No If no, please explain why on the back of this page.
	Signature Date
	Print name House/Senate District No.