

**For Immediate Release
September 25, 2015**

LASERS Actuarial Value of Assets Increases by Nearly \$1 Billion

Baton Rouge – The Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS) actuarial value of assets increased from \$10.6 billion to \$11.3 billion for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015. LASERS Actuary Shelley Johnson presented this information to the LASERS Board of Trustees at its September 25 meeting as part of the annual actuarial valuation report.

For the third consecutive year, there is a decrease in the projected amount the state will contribute to LASERS. Over the past six years, the number of active members has decreased by more than 21,000; but that reduction of active LASERS members has now plateaued.

The report included other excellent news for the retirement system and the state. The Unfunded Accrued Liability (UAL) decreased by \$373 million, from \$7.3 billion to \$6.9 billion. The funded ratio of the System increased to 62.1 percent, an almost three percent increase from the prior year.

“The 2015 valuation shows the health and sustainability of LASERS plan,” said LASERS Executive Director Cindy Rougeou. “In addition to the nearly \$1 billion increase in assets, LASERS actuarial rate of return was 10.64 percent for the fiscal year. Our 30-year average compounded actuarial return is 8.35 percent with an assumed rate of 7.75 percent. It is clear from the report that *LASERS Benefits Louisiana*.”

To read the complete LASERS Annual Actuarial Valuation, refer to the Annual Reports page on the LASERS website. For more information, contact Tonja Normand at 225.922.1131 or tnormand@lasersonline.org.

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