

**Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System
Legislative Committee Meeting
April 25, 2019**

The Legislative Committee of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System met on Thursday, April 25, 2019 in the fourth floor conference room of the Retirement Systems Building located at 8401 United Plaza Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Judge William Kleinpeter, Chair of the Committee, called the meeting to order at 2:39 p.m. Roll was called by Beth Labello, recording secretary.

Members present: Mr. Thomas Bickham, Ms. Virginia Burton, Ms. Beverly Hodges, Ms. Amy Mathews (designee of the Treasurer); Ms. Barbara McManus, Ms. Shannon Templet, Ms. Lorry Trotter, Ms. Janice Lansing, Judge William Kleinpeter,

Members absent: Ms. Lori Pierce, Commissioner Jay Dardenne, Senator Barrow Peacock and Representative Kevin Pearson

Staff present: Ms. Cindy Rougeou, Executive Director; Ms. Maris LeBlanc, Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer; Mr. Trey Boudreaux, Chief Administrative Officer; Ms. Tina Grant, Executive Counsel; Mr. Artie Fillastre, Chief Fiscal Officer; Ms. Tonja Normand; Public Information Director; Mr. Steve Stark, Deputy General Counsel, Ms. Tricia Gibbons, Retirement Benefits Administrator; Mr. Dan Bowden, IT Director; Mr. Trey Roche, Statewide Program Manager; Ryan Babin, Audit Director; Amanda Celestine, Executive Management Officer; Ms. Beth Labello, recording secretary

Also present: Ms. Shelley Johnson, Foster & Foster

A quorum was declared present and the meeting opened for business.

Public Comment

Judge Kleinpeter called for public comment. There were no public comments.

Regular Business

Judge Kleinpeter called for approval of the minutes of the March 21, 2019 Legislative Committee meeting. **Ms. Templet moved, seconded by Ms. McManus, to approve the minutes. With no objection or discussion, the motion carried.**

New Business

Ms. LeBlanc gave a status update on the bills being tracked this session.

HB 29 (R. Johnson), which would remove the increase in insurance premiums for Hazardous Duty Services Plan (Haz Plan) members who transfer service and retire with an unreduced benefit, was reported favorably by the House Retirement Committee.

SB 9 (Peterson) which deals with employees of the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) was reported favorably by the Senate Retirement Committee.

SB 14 (Peacock) regarding term limits for retirement system boards of trustees was voluntarily deferred in the Senate Retirement Committee.

SB 15 (Long), which changes the qualifications for eligibility in the Hazardous Duty Services Plan (HAZ Plan) for firefighters employed by the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, was reported favorably by the Senate Retirement Committee and passed the Senate Floor.

HCR 20 (Jones) and **SCR 34 (Mizell)** each memorialize Congress to consider eliminating the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) Social Security benefit reductions. HCR 20 has passed the House Floor and SCR 34 has passed the Senate Floor.

Ms. LeBlanc explained that the Legislative Chair had authorized support of HCR 20 and she asked for a vote to affirm that position, and also for a vote to support SCR 34.

Ms. Hodges moved, seconded by Ms. Burton, to recommend that the Board affirm support of House Concurrent Resolution 20 and support Senate Concurrent Resolution House 34. With no objection or discussion, the motion passed.

The committee discussed the effects that the WEP and the GPO may have on LASERS members.

Other Business

There was no further business to discuss.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.