

**Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System
Legislative Committee Meeting
April 22, 2021**

The Legislative Committee of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System met on Thursday, April 22, 2021 in the fourth floor Board Room of the Retirement Systems Building located at 8401 United Plaza Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Mr. Charles Castille, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:27 p.m. Roll was called by Ms. Beth Labello, recording secretary.

Members present: Mr. Thomas Bickham, Ms. Virginia Burton, Mr. Charles Castille, Ms. Beverly Hodges, Judge William Kleinpeter, Ms. Janice Lansing, Ms. Amy Mathews (designee of the Treasurer), Mr. Rick McGimsey (designee of the Commissioner), Ms. Barbara McManus, Ms. Lori Pierce, and Ms. Shannon Templet

Members absent: Senator Ed Price and Representative Lance Harris

Staff present: Ms. Cindy Rougeou, Executive Director; Mr. Trey Boudreaux, Chief of Staff; Ms. Tina Grant, Executive Counsel; Mr. Bobby Beale, Chief Investment Officer; Ms. Tricia Gibbons, Retirement Benefits Administrator; Mr. Ryan Babin, Audit Director; Mr. Dan Bowden, IT Director; Mr. Steve Stark, Deputy General Counsel; Ms. Morgan Robertson, Attorney; Mr. Artie Fillastre, Chief Financial Officer; Ms. Tonja Normand, Public Information Director; Mr. Mark Diaz, Public Information Officer; Mr. Don Milner, IT Management Consultant; Ms. Amanda Celestine, Executive Management Officer; and Ms. Beth Labello, recording secretary

Also present: Ms. Shelley Johnson, Foster & Foster and Mr. Frank Jobert, RSEA

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

Public Comment

Mr. Castille called for public comment. No public comments were made.

Regular Business

Mr. Castille called for approval of the minutes of the March 25, 2021 Legislative Committee meeting. **Judge Kleinpeter moved, seconded by Ms. Hodges, to approve the minutes. With no objection or discussion, the motion carried.**

New Business

Ms. Grant provided a status update on the bills being tracked this session.

SB 22 (Peacock), which Provides relative to retirement eligibility for certain new members of LASERS, TRSL & LSERS, was reported favorably by the Senate Retirement Committee.

SB 24 (Price), which provides relative to a Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA) and for related matters, has been recommitted to Senate Finance.

HB 19 (Mack), which provides relative to the selection of certain optional survivor benefits for members of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System, was referred to the House Retirement Committee. Ms. Grant requested that the Legislative Committee recommend a position on this bill to the Board.

Ms. McManus moved, seconded by Judge Kleinpeter, to remain neutral on HB 19 by Rep. Mack. With no objection or discussion, the motion carried.

Ms. Grant provided information on other items which are of interest to LASERS, as follows:

- **HCR 7 (Johnson)**, which memorializes congress to take actions necessary to review and eliminate or reduce the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision. This resolution was referred to the House Retirement Committee.
- **HR 23 (Harris)** and **SR 15 (Price)**, which commends LASERS on the occasion of its seventy-fifth anniversary. These resolutions were both adopted.
- **SB 190 (Smith)**, which transfers some Corrections' employees to DOTD. This bill was referred to the Committee on Transportation, Highways and Public Works.

Other Business

There was no further business to discuss.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:54 p.m.