LASERS

Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System

2026 Session Outcomes

Retiree Workshop

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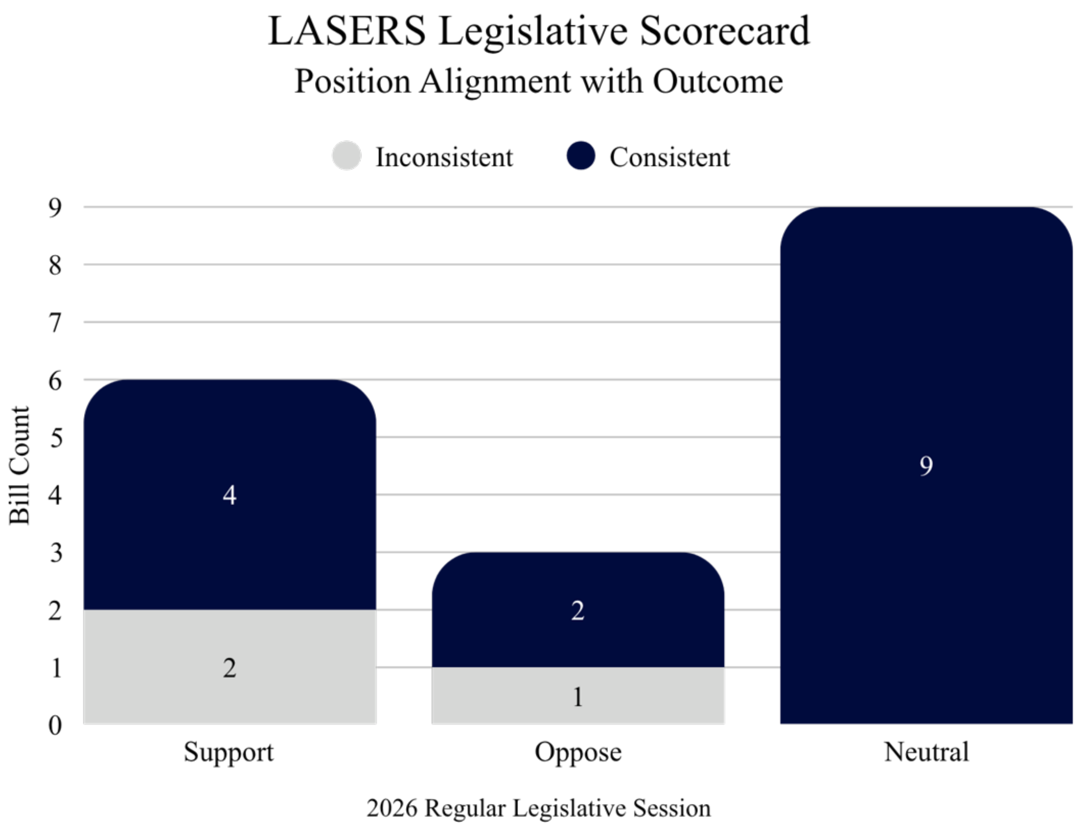
2026 Regular Legislative Session

At-a-glance

- The LASERS Board of Trustees took a position on **18 bills** during the 2026 Regular Legislative Session

Opposed	3	1 enacted 2 failed
Supported	6	4 enacted 1 failed 1 withdrawn
Neutral	9	all 9 enacted



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2026 Regular Legislative Session

Highlights – Major Successes

Overall, LASERS had a **very successful legislative session**, advancing major priorities for the System and its members.

- **Act 280** delivered the first **COLA** to LASERS retirees since 2016.

- **Act 961** provided a **$145.4 million supplemental appropriation** effectively paying off the OAB (IUAL) and reducing the EEAB (UAL), further improving LASERS long-term financial position.

2026 Regular Legislative Session

Act 280 - COLA

Authorizes a **2% COLA** for eligible retirees and beneficiaries.

- Retirees saw increase effective July 1, 2026.

The 2% increase applies to the first $81,201 of the annual benefit.

Eligibility is based on **age** and **length of time receiving a benefit**.

- Age **60 or older** by 7/1/26 and have received benefits for at least one year.
- Beneficiaries qualify if benefits have been paid for **at least one year** and the retiree would have **reached age 60 by 7/1/26**.
- Disability retirees and beneficiaries qualify after one year of benefits, with no age requirement.
- Survivors receiving a benefit based on the death of an active member are not eligible.

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2026 Regular Legislative Session

COLA Transition

Act 280 of the 2026 Legislative Session is being funded under the current COLA structure, which uses the Experience Account.

However, Louisiana law changed the future funding structure for COLAs through **Act 184** of the 2023 Legislative Session.

Under **Act 184**, LASERS will use a new funding model in which employers directly fund future COLAs through a **dedicated COLA account**.

2026 Regular Legislative Session

COLA Transition

Old COLA Method (2016 & 2026 COLA)	New COLA Method
60 years of age; retired at least **1** year	**62** years of age; retired at least **2** years
2% of the first **$81,201** (CPI-U)	2% of the first **$60,000**
Granted **infrequently**	Granted **every 2-3 years**
Indirectly funded from **excess investment earnings**	Directly funded by **employer contributions**

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2026 Regular Legislative Session

Funding

Act 961 - Provides a **$145.4 mil supplemental appropriation** to LASERS to reduce the unfunded accrued liability.

Act 606 - Proposes a **constitutional amendment** to remove the requirement that new monies be applied to the oldest UAL.

Act 230 - **Terminates additional amortization** hurdles after an original amortization base is liquidated.

Act 198 - **Renames the State Employee Retired license plate** to the RSEA plate and redirects proceeds from LASERS to RSEA.

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