



Louisiana Retired Teachers Association

LRTA Legislative Candidate Survey

The Louisiana Retired Teachers Association (LRTA) adopts a list of legislative priorities each year. This list contains items that support the granting of periodic cost-of-living adjustments, maintaining the financial integrity of the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL), and protecting the benefit structure offered by the retirement system. Although 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 feelings about four issues that may come up during your term in office. Please take a minute to respond to the issues outlined below.

Please return this survey by September 21, 2007 in the envelope provided.

1. Current law, specifically R.S. 11: 883.1. A. 3., states that: "In no event shall the amount in the employee experience account exceed the reserve necessary to grant two cost-of-living adjustments..." At the end of the current fiscal year, it is possible that TRSL will be depositing sufficient funds in the account from which COLAs are granted to fund three benefit adjustments.

- Would you be willing to author, co-author, and/or support legislation that would change the account balance limitation from two to three years? Yes No If not, please explain why.

2. LRTA supports the dedication of state revenues from the previous fiscal year, or the current fiscal year, for the purpose of paying down the initial unfunded accrued liability of TRSL. This liability exists because of the state's failure to properly fund benefit changes in the past.

- Would you be willing to author, co-author and/or support amendments to the Supplemental and/or General Appropriations Bill(s) which dedicate funds for the pay-down of TRSL's initial unfunded accrued liability? Yes No If not, please explain why.

3. LRTA opposes any action that would consolidate TRSL with any other retirement system, and also opposes any action that would consolidate the assets of TRSL with any other retirement system.

- Would you oppose all measures that would attempt to consolidate TRSL, or its assets, with any other retirement system? Yes No If not, please explain why.

4. TRSL offers a defined benefit plan to most of its members. There have been attempts to convert this plan design which guarantees a benefit based on years of service, salaries earned, and an accrual factor, to one that would be based on accounts that are self-invested by the member—a defined contribution plan.

- Would you oppose all measures that would convert TRSL from a defined benefit plan to a defined contribution plan? Yes No If not, please explain why.

Signature

Date

Senate

House

District Number