



# Update

Dear Friends,

December 11, 2019

Since my election to the KPERS Board of Trustees I have a new disclaimer that I must include in these updates from now on: "The views expressed in this update represent my views and/or the views of the Coalition. They do not in any way represent the views of KPERS Board of Trustees nor do I speak for them." (Ernie Claudel)

The next KCPR meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 8, 2020.

## **THREE IMPORTANT NOTICES:**

1. Our website is back up at [www.ksretirees.org](http://www.ksretirees.org).
2. All the articles on the sight have been updated where new information is available.
3. The 2020 Report to the Legislature will be on the website as of the release of this 'Update'. This report contains some very interesting information regarding the effect of no COLA for 22 years. The information has been presented on some new graphs.

## **RALLY CONFIRMATION:**

- *We have confirmed that the Rally date is official. Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 10:00 AM in the Capitol Rotunda.*
- *There is a poster attached that you can print and distribute.*
- *Be alert for messages regarding the Rally. There will be a series of updates in January pertaining to all the information you will need regarding the Rally, so keep an eye out for that.*
- *Attendance to this event is very important! We are well aware we are always rolling the dice on winter weather in Kansas. If you can make arrangement to get to the Rally that is 'weatherproof' please do so. The way we have this set up, there is ample free parking with shuttle provided if needed.*

## **Exciting Information from Today:**

1. Because of our sister coalition, Keeping the Kansas Promise (KKP), which is comprised of those under the KPERS Umbrella who are still working, we have been able to connect with and receive with a national pension coalition, NPPC (National Public Pension Coalition). They will be assisting us in our quest for a COLA.
2. Please "like" Kansas Coalition of Public Retirees on Facebook if you have not done so. This is but one of the communication tool NPPC will to using to pass along information. The communication avenue will begin soon.
3. Today was exciting as members of the NPPC staff were in Topeka. Several of us made short videos to be used in communicating the need for a COLA.
4. The NPPC Website is [www.protectpensions.org](http://www.protectpensions.org).

We want to remind you that July 1, 2019, marked 22 years w/o a COLA. On July 1, 2020, it will be 23 years. The updated figures indicate that 88% of the KPERS benefit recipients **have NEVER received a COLA.**

Remember to talk to your Kansas Representative and Senator about a need for a COLA prior to the beginning of the session.

**Side note:**

There is another bill which most consider positive, which proposes to raise the \$4,000.00 death benefit to \$10,000.00. We discussed and agreed that our priority should be to increase the monthly benefit as opposed to the death benefit.

Stay Warm!!!

- A. Remember to send me your updated email address...also if for any reason you should no longer wish to receive this update, let me know at the address listed at the end of this "update," and I will contact you and remove you from the official mailing lists.
- B. Just a reminder, that this email is an official report of the Kansas Coalition of Public Retirees. If I editorialize, I will indicate that fact.
- C. Remember that we want you to forward this to other retirees and the "working" who will benefit from this information.
- D. The KCPR website is [www.ksretirees.org](http://www.ksretirees.org)

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