



Update

Dear Friends,

May 10, 2023

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 meeting of KCPR will be held on July 12, 2023, via Zoom.
*There will be no June KCPR Meeting.***

KCPR APRIL UPDATE

The legislature is completely closed for the year. It is time to catch our breath. The need to step away and consider what is next is appropriate. We are working on new approaches. We will have a strategy developed for the next legislative session and the 2024 election cycle. The entire Kansas House and Senate will be up for election.

We have previously stated what KPERS-related items have been passed and what have not.

We definitely need to find a way to pick up more votes and ways to positively impact majority leadership.

What Can You Do?

1. KEEP those 'cards and letters' flowing.
2. *If you have not talked to your present legislators regarding COLA do so.*
3. *If you have previously talked to them, do so again!*
4. *REMEMBER, the excuse that KPERS can not have a COLA because it is a defined benefit is totally inaccurate. I have gone so far as to say that that 'excuse' is an insult to my intelligence.*
5. The Governor will be out and about the State. Express to her at every opportunity that we need to have her put a 'Benefit Increase' in her budget.
6. A lot of the legislators will be holding Town Hall meetings during this session break. Attend these sessions and let them know of your demands.
7. We need to start writing to the Governor as well and demanding action on a benefit increase.
8. We know many groups are making legislative contacts. These actions have raised concerns about the present level. The next step is direct action! NOW we need the votes!

Have a wonderful remainder of May and a great June! I look forward to seeing you KARSP members at the June convention!

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