

PLANNED ACTIVITY FOR FEBRUARY 8th.
“KPERS DAY AT THE CAPITOL”

THE GOAL IS TO HAVE AS MANY PEOPLE IN THE CAPITOL TALKING ABOUT THE NEED FOR A COLA AS POSSIBLE. We have a ‘staging area’ of the Capitol reserved from 8:00 am until noon on this day on the 2nd Floor Rotunda. This does not mean that we will not be available until as late as 3:00 pm in the general assigned area.

To ensure that you receive all of the information for this event, go to www.ksretirees.org and sign up to receive the latest KCPR Update. In this way you will receive the latest info in a timely manner. We may well have information regarding Committee Meeting, etc. up until the last day. Check your email before you leave home for the trip to Topeka.

KCPR WILL PROVIDE:

1. A representative to meet you past the entrance and direct you to our assigned space.
2. A packet having:
 - a. Update KCPR/KARSP Brochure
 - b. KPERS COLA History
 - c. A **‘report form’** so we can be made aware of your experiences so we can follow up as well as know what feedback you received.

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES, should you choose to attend: 😊

1. Prior to this day, schedule an appointment with your representative, your senator, and any others you know. What hours might be available? (It has been suggested that you start this process NLT the end of January and the 1st of February.)
2. To find your Representative and Senator please use the following method:
 - A. If you do not know, or are not sure who your Kansas Senator and Representative is, go to OpenStates.org. It will ask you what you are looking for so enter legislators. It will next ask for your address, and your Senator and Representative will pop up!!

B. ONE OF THE REASONS THIS DAY IS SO IMPORTANT IS THE FACT THAT THERE ARE 32 NEW HOUSE MEMBERS WHO LIKELY HAVE LITTLE KNOWLEDGE OF KPERS.

C. SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 8TH:

- a. Most legislators arrive in the building by 8:00 am.
- b. The House goes into session at 11:00 am. The session at this time of year will likely not last more than an hour. This however is not a guarantee.
- c. You then have from 8:00 until 11:00 to schedule with your House Member and perhaps after the session when the day concludes.
- d. The Senate goes into session at 2:00 pm. The session at this time of year will likely not last more than an hour. This however is not a guarantee.
- e. You will probably be restricted to 8:00 until 2:00 with the Senate.

Arrive not later than 11:30 am providing you have later appointments.

- D. If others have appointments with your legislator/senator and could not get an appointment and you have one, you can take them with you.
- E. We would also ask that you drop off a card at the Governor's Office asking for a COLA.
- F. Finally return the '**report form**' you were asked to fill out to a KCPR representative.
- G. KCPR representative will provide you with a packet of information as well as be able to direct you where to go and offer advice if wanted on how to present the information provided.

OTHER INFORMATION:

1. Presently there is a nice deli on the first floor and a nice area to eat across the hall. Therefore, one does not need to pack a lunch unless you personally wish to do so.
2. Building Tour Information: (You can turn this into a Capitol Day Trip as well.)
 - A. The only entrance to the Capitol is through the North entrance. (You can take any exit to leave, but only one to enter.)
 - B. To the left of the entrance is the Capitol Store which is open 9 am to 5 pm.

- C. Just past this on the left is the tour guide/information center.
 - a. You can pick up a brochure there and follow it for a walking tour of the building.
 - b. There is also a guided tour of the building at 9 am, 10 am, 11 am, 1 pm, 2 pm, & 3 pm. You do not need to sign up ahead of time. You are welcome to join a tour at any one of these times. You do not need a reservation!!
 - c. Also available are 'Dome' tours. These leave the guide station at 10:15 am, 11:15 am, 1:15 pm, 2:15 pm & 3:15 pm.
- 3. You can also examine the House and Senate chambers with no one present as well as see both Chambers in session if you like.
- 4. *We cannot predict this early whether there will be committee meetings of interest you might attend. This information will be available as late as the morning of the 8th.* (You may have heard the humorous country tune by Don Williams, "Tulsa Time." The legislature runs on 'legislative time.' 😊)
- 5. Unless your group or organization has a designated T-Shirt or other desired apparel, we would ask that you wear black.

ADDITIONAL TALKING POINTS

If writing a post card or email message, we suggest you choose one or two as space permits on your postcard.

- 1. 88% of KPERS Retirees have never received a benefit adjustment.
- 2. 88% of the KPERS Retirees reside in Kansas.
- 3. The Kansas Legislature has not provided KPERS Retirees with a permanent increase since 1997.
- 4. The average KPERS retirement benefit is \$1,580.00.
($1,580 \times 12 = 18,960$)
- 5. The employees are required to contribute their designated amount. It is estimated that if the legislature had contributed what they needed to, that KPERS would be over 80% funded. Therefore, because of the 25 years of underfunding, the employees are not realizing any added value for their earnest contributions over the years.