



MRTA

Missouri Retired Teachers Association
and Public School Personnel

877-366-MRTA

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Legislative Committee Goal and Objectives September 24, 2025

Committee Goal: To encourage MRTA members to work actively for beneficial legislation including increased public school funding, so all employees and retirees may live healthy, vital lives, and be secure economically, professionally, and socially.

Objectives:

1. Promote MRTA membership to active and retired educators and support staff: **strength in numbers!**
2. Encourage all local units to have a legislative committee chairperson to promote and report on legislative updates at all MRTA unit meetings.
3. Increase enrollment in Phone2Action from 20,283 users by 3% (609 users) with a stretch goal of 5% (1,014 users).
4. Increase response for “MRTA Call to Action” and “Phone2Action” among your unit members for MRTA’s positions regarding legislation and other advocacy issues.
5. Encourage increased attendance at MRTA Legislative Day from 255 to over 300 with representation from every MRTA unit and region, as well as participation online.
6. Become knowledgeable about the legislative process, and the most effective means of participating in that process. Communicate the importance of a strong response by unit members to their own elected officials.
7. Work with MRTA Strategic Planning - Advocacy Committee to encourage letters to the editor in newspapers.
8. Encourage members to know their elected officials and add the information to their membership record on the membership portal.
9. Encourage members to run for office, units to host candidate forums, and elected officials to attend MRTA Regional Meetings.
10. Establish a good working relationship and rapport with elected officials, their staff, and other key figures in government, i.e. thank you, welcome, good wishes/first-year legislators.

Two Attachments:

1. Legislative Committee Responsibilities
2. Legislative Committee Calendar

**Legislative Committee Responsibilities
September 24, 2024**

The MRTA Legislative Committee is responsible for advocating and promoting the legislative priorities of MRTA within their regions. This includes staying informed on key legislative issues affecting retired educators and public school personnel, communicating these issues to members, and encouraging grassroots advocacy efforts. The committee works closely with local units to mobilize members, coordinate outreach to elected officials, and support MRTA’s legislative agenda at both the state and national levels. Their efforts ensure that the voices of retirees are heard in shaping policies that protect and enhance retirement benefits and public education.

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| <p align="center">Communication and Coordination</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appoint and support Legislative Chairpersons in each MRTA Unit to facilitate communication between Regional Chairpersons and local units. 2. Serve as the primary point of contact for Legislative Committee matters within their respective MRTA regions. 3. Facilitate communication and information dissemination between MRTA Region and Local Legislative Chairpersons. |
| <p align="center">Support Local Units</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collaborate with Regional Committee Chairs to ensure personal outreach to district or building leadership promoting the importance of experienced educators for strong communities. 2. Ensure that every Local MRTA Unit has a designated Legislative Committee chairperson. 3. Provide guidance and support to local chairs in executing legislative initiatives. |
| <p align="center">Encourage Participation</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote and encourage involvement in the calls to action, phone to action. 2. Promote and encourage participation at Legislative Day. 3. Facilitate partnerships with elected officials who are supportive of public schools. |
| <p align="center">Promotion And Reporting</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote and publicize all local unit MRTA Legislative projects through various channels, including newspapers, social media, Facebook, and the MRTA website. 2. Keep State Legislative Region Chair informed of local unit Legislative activities to the MRTA Region and Committee. |
| <p align="center">Outreach</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Work with IPS and Retirement Education Committee on promoting and publishing “Letters to the Editor.” 2. Provides a list for knowledgeable speakers to address MRTA members on retirement and education issues. 3. Recommend to the MRTA Board of Directors strategies for educating and informing the membership about MRTA functions and educational events, including the establishment of a speaker's bureau and allowing all members to attend such events. |

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| <p>Membership Growth & Engagement</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="391 191 1421 275">1. Work to increase MRTA membership by fostering fellowship and community involvement.<li data-bbox="391 275 1421 373">2. Use Legislative activities as opportunities to promote MRTA membership to active and retired public school personnel. |
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**Legislative Committee – Calendar of Events
September 24, 2024**

Please make sure to send an email to your unit legislative chairs (or Unit President if no unit legislative chair is listed) once a month. Please make sure that they share to their members important membership information

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| <p align="center">June to October</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the previous year's Legislative activities and assess their effectiveness. 2. Set specific goals and objectives for the current year based on the MRTA Legislative Committee's guidelines. 3. Reach out to Local Unit Legislative Chairs to introduce yourself and establish communication channels. 4. Communicate with Local Unit Legislative Chairpersons to remind them of the reporting deadline for Legislative activities for the prior year. 5. Attend Annual & Region Meetings. |
| <p align="center">November to December</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chair presents recommendations to the MRTA Board of Directors. 2. Region Committee chairs make sure that all unit region committee chairs are set for the upcoming year. 3. Express gratitude to MRTA members, community partners, and volunteers for their contributions and support throughout the year. 4. Begin planning for the next year's Legislative initiatives, incorporating lessons learned and feedback from stakeholders. 5. Reach out to unit legislative chairs about upcoming legislative session. |
| <p align="center">January to February</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Get a list of local newspapers in your area from MRTA State office. 2. Work with Informative & Protective Services and Retirement Education Committees on promoting and publishing "Letters to the Editor." 3. Promote Legislative Day and the importance of attending. |
| <p align="center">March to April</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluate potential partnerships with educational and civic groups. 2. Develop strategies to promote participation in the designated Legislative projects for the year. 3. Organize training sessions or workshops for Local Unit Legislative Chairpersons to share best practices and provide guidance on project implementation. 4. Launch Legislative initiatives for the year. 5. Contact local bank and car dealerships for potential sponsors of MRTA Annual Golf Tournament. 6. Continue communication with Retirement Education Region Committee Chairs to finalize "Letters to the Editor" submissions. |

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| <p style="text-align: center;">May to June</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitor the progress of Legislative projects across the region and provide support to local units as needed. 2. Encourage active participation in ongoing initiatives through regular communication and outreach efforts. 3. Evaluate the impact of Legislative activities conducted thus far and identify areas for improvement or expansion. 4. Explore opportunities for additional community engagement and partnership development. 5. Continue communication with Retirement Education Region Committee Chairs to finalize "Letters to the Editor" submissions. 6. Attend Legislative Committee First Monday meetings and the Spring Legislative Committee meeting (virtual) |
| <p style="text-align: center;">July to August</p> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan and organize mid-year review meetings with Local Unit Legislative Chairpersons to assess progress and address any challenges or concerns. 2. Continue to promote Legislative initiatives through various communication channels. 3. Review and update promotional materials for Legislative projects to maintain visibility and engagement. 4. Explore opportunities to collaborate with other organizations or community groups to amplify the impact of MRTA's initiatives. 5. Register & Reserve Hotel Room for Fall Annual Meeting |