

MRTA Federal Agenda

Position: Pass HR 711, the Equal Treatment of Public Servants this Congressional cycle.

MRTA has long championed many issues in Congress in addition to our active state legislative agenda. Two very important Social Security laws prevent many public educators from receiving benefits, the Government Pension Offset (GPO) and the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP).

After years of Congressional neglect on the important WEP and GPO issues, Congressman Kevin Brady (R-TX 8th District) has introduced HR 711, the Social Security Equal Treatment of Public Servants Act.

HR 711 will permanently eliminate the current WEP formula and implement a more fair calculation of Social Security benefits for public employees whose public pension fund is not coordinated with Social Security.

The new formula will give full credit to a future retiree for the years they paid into Social Security, and addresses the issues that originally led to the creation of the WEP. Additionally, the formula will be fair to employees working in dual-covered systems (like a non-covered public pension fund and other private sector work).

Future retirees under the new formula will see WEP's impact cut in half.

For those already retired, Social Security benefits will be recalculated and many retirees will realize Social Security increases as high as 36%!

If we can work with Congress to enact this legislation, benefits will be recalculated in January 2017. MRTA has worked on the WEP and the GPO for almost two decades, and this legislation can make a real impact on more than a million retired public workers in Missouri and around the nation. Getting anything passed in Congress will take a major effort on behalf of MRTA, and we are ready to fight to get you more of your earned Social Security benefits!

Please email your congressperson in Washington D.C. and ask for their support of HR 711.

From MRTA's 2015 Legislative Platform:

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE ISSUES OF INTEREST TO MRTA

1. MRTA will support legislation to repeal/modify the WEP (Windfall Elimination Provision) and GPO (Governmental Pension Offset) provisions of Social Security.
2. MRTA will oppose mandatory Social Security for new educators.
3. MRTA will oppose privatization of Social Security.
4. MRTA supports affordable and accessible healthcare to promote financial security for all American retirees.
5. MRTA will oppose vouchers and use of tax dollars for nonpublic schools.

Contact Your Federal Elected Officials

U.S. Representatives

District 1 - William Lacy Clay (D)

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