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### **MRTA Vision Statement**

The vision of Missouri Retired Teachers Association and Public School Personnel (MRTA) is to promote and protect pensions, programs, and benefits of all public school personnel in retirement.

### **MRTA Mission Statement**

The mission of Missouri Retired Teachers Association and Public School Personnel (MRTA) is to grow membership and work actively with government and its entities so that all public school personnel will be secure economically, socially, and professionally in retirement.

## **Save the Date!**



**MRTA Legislative Day 2021  
will be held**

**Thursday, February 11**  
if we cannot meet in person this event  
will still be held virtually!

**Contact your Legislators!**

To find your legislator visit  
[www.mrta.org](http://www.mrta.org)  
and click



or call your  
**County Clerk's office.**

**Not an MRTA member?**

**Join today!**

You may join now by visiting

**[www.mrta.org](http://www.mrta.org)**

or call office at 1-877-366-6782

Missouri Retired Teachers Association  
and Public School Personnel

## **2021 MRTA Legislative Platform**

*"The world is run by those who show up!"*



**MRTA is over 30,000 strong!**

**THERE IS STRENGTH IN NUMBERS!**

## 2021 MRTA Legislative Platform

*"MRTA is independent, non-partisan and does not endorse political candidates."*

### RETIREMENT SYSTEM LEGISLATION AND POLICY

1. MRTA will use all available means to restore the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) which the PSRS/PEERS Board of Trustees has reduced twice in the past ten years. MRTA supports the restoration of the COLA to pre-2011 levels for PSRS/PEERS of MO retirees.
2. MRTA will advocate for a PSRS/PEERS COLA policy or law that will be like Social Security, where the cumulative CPI-U on the last day of the fiscal year is the COLA.
3. MRTA will advocate for and recommend to the Board of Trustees of the PSRS/PEERS of Missouri, the PSRS of the City of St. Louis, and the PSRS of Kansas City, Missouri a nationwide search for a new Executive Director, if and when one is needed.
4. In order to preserve and protect the strong financial integrity and transparency of PSRS/PEERS of Missouri, MRTA will advocate for a comprehensive audit of PSRS/PEERS from the State Auditor's Office.

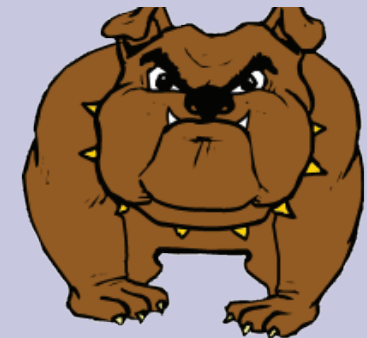
### STATE LEGISLATIVE ISSUES OF INTEREST TO MRTA

1. MRTA will work to protect the Missouri public pension retirement plans as defined benefit plans rather than defined contribution plans.
2. MRTA will support the current independent governance and decisions of the Boards of Trustees of the following public education retirement systems: PSRS/PEERS Retirement System of Missouri, PSRS of Kansas City, Missouri, and PSRS of the City of St. Louis.

3. MRTA will work to protect/maintain access to healthcare coverage for public school retirees through the school system from which they retired as is mandated by Missouri law requiring the same premium cost and the same coverage as the active public school employees.
4. MRTA will support "equal and adequate" public school funding through full funding of the foundation formula for all public schools as mandated by the Missouri Constitution.
5. MRTA supports state revenue enhancements such as the "Wayfair" internet sales tax as has been enacted in 45 other states, in order to help adequately fund public education in Missouri.
6. MRTA will oppose any legislation that would reduce school funding such as Taxpayers Bill Of Rights (TABOR) or further revenue reductions that jeopardize public school funding.
7. MRTA will oppose vouchers, education tax credits, education scholarships, or any other use of tax dollars for nonpublic schools.
8. MRTA will oppose the state-wide expansion of charter schools.
9. MRTA will support requiring certified teachers who are members or retirees of PSRS for teaching in virtual classrooms.
10. MRTA supports accountability for existing charter schools equal to that of public schools.
11. MRTA will support legislation to increase minimum salaries for teachers and the funding of those increases.
12. MRTA will oppose state mandated consolidation of public schools that meet state standards.
13. MRTA will work to protect/maintain the Missouri state income tax exemptions for public education retirees that MRTA was instrumental in obtaining in 2007 (HB444).

### 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 educator members of PSRS of Missouri.
3. MRTA will oppose privatization of Social Security.
4. MRTA will oppose vouchers, education tax credits, education scholarships, or any other use of tax dollars for nonpublic schools.
5. MRTA will oppose the expansion of charter schools.
6. MRTA supports accountability for existing charter schools equal to that of public schools.
7. MRTA supports affordable healthcare to promote financial security for all.
8. MRTA supports affordable prescription drugs to promote financial security for all.
9. MRTA supports efforts that would decrease student loan debt to encourage the recruitment and retention of teachers.



**MRTA is your pension watchdog!**