

The Honorable [FULL NAME]
State Representative
PO Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Representative [LAST NAME]:

Congratulations on your recent election! I am writing to you as a Trustee of your local public retirement system and a member of the Michigan Association of Public Employee Retirement Systems (MAPERS). MAPERS is the principle educational and legislative forum for public retirement plan trustees and administrators.

Public retirement systems, state and local, have a large impact of government budgets. The legislature, especially in these challenging economic times, has been forced to deal with less revenue and greater demand on the retirement system. In fact, to help examine and solve some of those concerns the House of Representatives created the Committee on Retiree Health Care Reforms. MAPERS has been there since the inception to provide the legislature with information and suggestions. Additionally, we will be seeking legislation that will grant the flexibility local pension plans need to stay solvent in this tough economic market, and I will be asking for your support. The legislation stalled last session, and local pension plans need flexibility more than ever as the market continues to be unpredictable.

I am inviting you to meet with your local Board of Trustees and plan administrators to understand the function of MAPERS as well as to give you some background on the evolution of retirement systems in Michigan; since you are now a part of that system, we would like to share information with you and understand your views on public retirement.

I will contact your office shortly to set up an appointment. However, if you wish, please feel free to contact me at [CONTACT INFORMATION] so we can meet.

Thank you for your time, and I look forward to working with you to help secure retirement for all of Michigan's public servants.

Sincerely,