



# Missouri Retired Teachers Association & Public School Personnel Missouri Retired Teachers Foundation



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Two news articles below. Congratulations MRTA and HUZZAH!

## Legislative logjam broken; session resumes Tuesday

by Bob Priddy on July 9, 2010

in [Business](#), [Human Interest](#), [Legislature](#), [Politics & Government](#), [Transportation](#)

The logjam apparently has been broken in the legislature to get the pension and Ford tax incentive bills moving. It appears action will resume Tuesday and could conclude Wednesday in both chambers of the General Assembly.

An alternative to the Ford bill is to be taken up in Senate Committee on Tuesday. The bill is structured to avoid going to the Fiscal Oversight Committee headed by Senator Chuck Purgason who has blocked the first version of the Ford Bill and says he wants to kill it.

Senate Majority Floor Leader Steven Tilley says Senator Jason Crowell has backed away from his demand that a special investment board be appointed to oversee investments by the two major pension plans for state employees, clearing the way for the House to move on the pension bill.

We've been told the two chambers hope to get both bills into conference committees Tuesday and take final action on compromise versions on Wednesday.

## Nixon: New pension investment board "outside" call of special session

By TONY MESSENGER > [tmessenger@post-dispatch.com](mailto:tmessenger@post-dispatch.com) > 573-635-6178 | Posted: Friday, July 9, 2010 12:44 pm  
JEFFERSON CITY -- Gov. Jay Nixon today clarified his call for the special session in an attempt to resolve differences between the House and Senate over a stalled pension bill.

The bill has been stuck because of concerns in the House over the creation of a super investment board to oversee two of the state's pension funds. The board is being pushed by Sen. Jason Crowell, R-Cape Girardeau, who said it is necessary for the pension merger to work.

House members have balked, suggesting the board is ripe for corruption.

Today, Nixon issued a statement saying that the creation of the investment board is outside the call of the special session. In his numerous statements throughout the special session, including one after the Senate passed a bill including the board, Nixon had said nothing of the sort.

Nixon and legislative leaders had a conference call today after the session made no progress -- and didn't even have any debate -- this week.

"On today's call, I clarified that the issue of transferring the investment responsibilities of the MOSERS board and the MPERS board to a dedicated investment board is beyond the scope of this extraordinary session," Nixon said in a statement.

If the House and Senate can resolve their differences on the pension bill -- which has now passed both chambers in different versions -- that could open the way for a deal on the Ford bill.

The Ford bill will offer tax incentives to Ford and other automobile manufacturers of up to \$150 million over 10 years. Nixon and lawmakers have said the pension bill is necessary to pay for the Ford bill.

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In his statement today, Nixon also refused to budget on adding "data centers" to the special session call. Lawmakers in Boone County have argued the incentives might be necessary to lure major companies to Missouri. Lawmakers return to the Capitol on Tuesday.

*THANK YOU for being counted as a member of MRTA. Your membership will make a difference in the lives of many.*

***MRTA is the Association of Retired Education Professionals and Missouri's Public Pension Experts!***

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