
ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE 2017 - END OF LEGISLATIVE SESSION REPORT
May 12, 2017

KILLED PRIORITY - **MRTA opposed SB 228 (Koenig R-15)**. Would have established a hybrid retirement plan and requires all new members of the plan to participate in the Defined Contribution Plan (DC) for MOSERS, state employees, and elected officials. **KILLED!**

KILLED PRIORITY - **MRTA opposed SS#2/SCS/SB 313 (Koenig R-15)**. A voucher scheme that would have put scarce tax dollars into private and religious schools/institutions. This legislation would have taken \$50 million from public schools. **KILLED!**

KILLED PRIORITY - **MRTA opposed SB 141 (Emery R- 31)**. This act provided that statewide elected officials and members of the General Assembly serving for the first time on or after January 1, 2018 would have participated in a 401(k) defined contribution plan instead of the current defined benefit plan. **KILLED!**

KILLED PRIORITY - **MRTA opposed HCS/HB 634 (Roeber R-34)**. This legislation allowed charter schools in all first class counties in the state and would have affected 70% of Missouri's population. **KILLED!**

PASSED PRIORITY - **MRTA supported HB 304 (Pike R- 126) and SB 394 (Romine R-3)**. This legislation was an MRTA priority and allows pension benefits to "POP UP" after a divorce with the ruling on assets by a court. The bill also allows an extension from 90 days to one year for a retiree to add a beneficiary if remarries. **Amended to CCS/HCS/SS/SB62 and PASSED, on Governor's desk for signature!**

PASSED PRIORITY - **MRTA supported HB 305 (Pike R-126) and SB 441 (Hegeman R-12)**. This legislation was an MRTA priority that closes the "Kelly Services" loophole requiring every retiree and school district statewide to follow the 550 hour Work After Retirement (WAR) law. **Amended to CCS/HCS/SS/SB62 and PASSED, on Governor's desk for signature!**

PRIORITY - **MRTA supported HB 891 (Cookson R-153)**. This legislation mandated a 2% COLA for PSRS/PEERS retirees if the CPI is between 0% and 5%. If the CPI is over 5% the COLA will be 5%. This mirrored the 2011 PSRS/PEERS Stabilization Policy. **No action taken.**

PRIORITY - **MRTA supported HB 755 (Cookson R-153)**. This legislation allowed for the salaries of PSRS/PEERS employees to be public record. Currently PSRS/PEERS is the only system in Missouri where they are not public record. **No action taken.**

PRIORITY - **MRTA opposed HB 619 (Dogan R-98) and SB 409 (Koenig R-15)**. This legislation changes and lowers the retirement benefits of active Saint Louis City educators at the same time raising their contributions to the system. This sets an extremely bad precedent for all Defined Benefit Plans in Missouri in that promises when you were hired could be broken. **MRTA proposed a solution which was adopted. Passed.**

PASSED PRIORITY - **MRTA supported full funding of the Foundation Formula and opposed the use of public tax dollars for private schools**. The Missouri Constitution mandates adequate funding of K-12 education through HB 2 which requires education funding as the second priority of state expenditures. The Public School Foundation Formula is currently underfunded by at least \$50 million dollars. This is particularly troublesome for rural schools and inner city schools because a high percentage of their funding comes from the state. **Full Funding of the current Formula PASSED, on Governor's desk for signature!**