



Kentucky Retired Teachers Association
www.krta.org | info@krta.org | 502-231-5802

Message to Members

Distribution: KRTA Web Site, Email, Social Media and Texting Service

Dear KRTA Members,

By now, you've seen that Governor Bevin's consultant, PFM, has issued a new report regarding pension reform. If you haven't done so already, we strongly encourage you to read the report, which is available [here](#).

You will see the report is very complex, but the bottom line is the **recommended reforms would bring deep financial harm to retired teachers**. Teachers are being asked to bear the cost of bailing out our elected officials' for their mismanagement and mistakes.

KRTA issued an initial statement about the recommendations available [here](#). In the statement, we say that retired teachers will fight tooth and nail any efforts to cut benefits we have earned, and we will fight any efforts to move teachers from pensions to 401(k)-type accounts. Instead, the state should stay the course on catching up on its missed payments to the teacher retirement plan, especially because teachers never missed a contribution from every single paycheck to their retirement plan.

We have engaged an expert consultant to develop a full analysis of the complex PFM report. We will keep you posted on that analysis, and we will provide you with more specifics on the damage the PFM recommendations would cause.

In the meantime, **here are five steps you can take now to help protect your retirement benefits**. We expect Governor Bevin will convene a special session of the legislature in the coming weeks to address pension reform, so it is vitally important that all retired teachers are informed and weighing in with elected officials.

1. **Read the report** [here](#), as well as and credible media coverage so that you are informed about what Governor Bevin's consultants are recommending.
2. **Contact your legislators** (letters, emails, phone calls, and social media) to let them know you are deeply opposed the PFM report recommendations and

you will fight to protect the retirement you earned. Provide them with specifics on how this will personally harm you and your family. Let them know that you and your family vote. You can find your legislators [here](#), and the number to call your legislators is 1-800-372-7181.

3. **Tell your family and friends** that the PFM report is the wrong solution, and encourage them to weigh in with their elected officials.
4. **Attend any town halls** that legislators are holding across the state and voice your concerns about the PFM report.
5. **Be aware that dark money from outsiders is running a well-funded, negative and inaccurate campaign about our pensions.** Visit <http://www.saveourpension.com> so that you are informed about their anti-pension propaganda. You can contact this group and demand to know who is funding their work, and you also can express your concerns about this group to your elected officials.

It will take our collective voices to protect our financial security. In the coming days, we will push out additional information to help you advocate for your pensions and to convey our position to policymakers.

Thank you for your support, and please call us if you have questions or comments.

Best regards,

Bob Wagoner, KRTA Executive Director