

**2011 Louisiana Legislative Regular Session
RSEA FINAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT
TOTAL #23: 12- Passed, 11- Failed**

**RSEA
Position
Oppose**

Bill Description

HB 32 by Representative Fannin

Provides for the ancillary expenses of state government which includes the Office of Group Benefits. Further provides that the treasurer shall transfer into the Overcollections Funds the proceeds generated as a result of the sale or other transaction by the Office of Group Benefits which has the effect of transforming its operations.

Final Status: Passed - Act 42

Language related to the sale or other transaction by the Office of Group Benefits was deleted.

Oppose

HB 325 by Representative Montoucet

Relative to LASERS, allows certain Deferred Retirement Option Plan participants to revoke the benefit option selected at the time of commencement in DROP and to revert to the maximum benefit allowance.

Final Status: Failed

Support

HB 377 by Representative Pearson

Prohibits members of the legislature elected on or after July 1, 2011, from using their legislative service and earnings to accrue benefits in other state or statewide system.

Final Status: Passed - Act 377

Oppose

HB 386 by Representative Robideaux

Proposed law authorizes a state retirement system to buy life insurance on its members and retirees when the beneficiary to a portion of the benefits under the policy is the state retirement system. It also provides that the policy shall be voided if a member or retiree to make a written object to the insurer within 10 days after such policy is delivered to the state retirement system.

Final Status: Not Considered

Neutral

HB 404 by Representative Ellington

Relative to members of LASERS, provides for the purchase of service credit by any active, contributing member for federal service during which the member contributed to a federal employee's retirement plan. Provides for application to purchase such credit and determination of purchase price. Provides that the purchased credit shall be used for purposes of attaining eligibility for retirement as well as for calculation of benefits.

Final Status: Passed - Act 355

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RSEA
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Oppose

Bill Description

HB 426 by Representative Kleckley

Adds the commissioner of administration or his designee to the membership of the boards of trustees of LASERS, Teachers and La. School Employees' retirement systems.

Final Status: Failed

Support

HB 435 by Representative Pearson and Senator Gautreaux

Provides that a minimum of 10% of the funds recognized as nonrecurring will be applied toward payment of the unfunded accrued liabilities which existed as of June 30, 1988 for LASERS and Teachers Retirement System.

Final Status: Passed - Act 357

Oppose

HB 478 by Representatives Montoucet, Barras, Champagne, St. Germain & Thibaut, Senators Gautreaux, Guillory, Michot and Mills

Proposed law provides that adult probation and parole officers who were employed on or before 12/31/01, who opted to remain in the primary component pursuant to present law, and who retire or enter DROP on or after 7/1/11 shall receive a maximum retirement allowance equal to 3% of average compensation for service prior to 7/1/11 and 3 1/3% of average compensation for service on or after 7/1/11.

Final Status: Passed; Vetoed by Governor

Oppose

HB 479 by Representative Talbot

Relative to LASERS, increases the employee contribution rate for nonhazardous duty members by 3% effective 7/1/11.

Final Status: Failed

Oppose

HB 530 by Representative Pearson

Relative to LASERS, TRSL and State Police Pension & Retirement System (STPOL), increases employee contribution, changes from a 3 year to 5 year Final Average Compensation (FAC) and provides for more restrictive anti-spiking provisions for state employees, higher education employees and state troopers.

Final Status: Failed

Support

HB 571 by Representative Robideaux

Relative to LASERS, TRSL, LSERS and STPOL; makes technical, remedial and substantive changes to provisions of the law affected by Act 992 of the 2010 Regular Legislative Session.

Final Status: Passed - Act 368

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RSEA Position	<u>Bill Description</u>
Oppose	HB 630 by Representative Ritchie Among other things, proposed law reduces the exclusion from state income tax for retirement income from 100% to 90%. Final Status: Failed
Neutral	HR 149 by Representative Montoucet Directs the state and statewide retirement systems to study the nature of irrevocable decisions and to provide the legislature with solutions for allowing members and retirees to revoke certain elections under certain circumstances. Final Status: Passed
Support	HCR 93 by Representative Hoffman Memorializes congress to review and consider eliminating the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision social security benefit reductions. Final Status: Passed
Support	HCR 94 by Representative G. Smith Memorializes congress to eliminate the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision social security benefit reductions. Final Status: Passed
Neutral	HCR 135 by Representative Robideaux Directs LASERS, TRSL, School Employees' Retirement System and State Police Pension & Retirement to report to the House and Senate Committees on Retirement and to the Division of Administration, the administrative and investment costs incurred by each system for FY 2011 and FY 2012 and to submit a report on the feasibility of combining administrative and investment management services of the systems to the House and Senate Retirement Committees and the Division of Administration prior to the 2012 Regular Legislative Session. Final Status: Passed
Oppose	SB 5 by Senator Appel Allows a reemployed LASERS retiree who previously named a former spouse as beneficiary upon retiring initial to designate his current spouse as beneficiary for the purposes of any supplemental benefits that accrued after his reemployment, but only to the extent that such supplemental benefit did not accrue during his marriage to his previous spouse. Final Status: Failed

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<u>RSEA Position</u>	<u>Bill Description</u>
Neutral	SB 9 by Senator Gautreaux Provides for that any member of LASERS who has credit in the system for at least five years of service shall be eligible to purchase up to five years of service credit in one year increments for purposes of attaining eligibility for retirement and calculation of benefits. Final Status: Passed - Act 322
Oppose	SB 12 by Senator Gautreaux and Representative Pearson Provides for a second tier of benefits in each state and statewide retirement system, at the option of the employer, known as "Tier 2". Provides that the current provisions of each retirement system, including any subplans, shall be known as "Tier 1". Provides that participation in Tier 2 shall be at the option of the employing agency. Provides that participation shall apply to all the agency's employees for benefits accrued on or after the date the agency begins participating in Tier 2, regardless of whether all agency employees are in a single system or subplan in Tier 1. Provides an agency opting into Tier 2 from Tier 1 notify its employees and the retirement system. Final Status: Not Considered
Support	SB 10 by Senator Shaw Support amendment adding LASERS The bill applies to the Teachers system only. It would change the statutes governing the experience account back to what they were before the most recent changes. In effect, the changes would make it easier to grant COLAs. Final Status: Failed
Support	SCR 57 by Senator Gautreaux Memorializes congress to review and consider eliminating the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination Provision social security benefit reductions. Final Status: Passed
Support	SCR 62 by Senator Gautreaux Expresses the intent of the legislature to provide comprehensive, affordable life and health benefits for current and retired public employees and their family through the Office of Group Benefits. Final Status: Passed

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RSEA
Position
Support

Bill Description

SCR 70 by Senator Gautreaux

Directs the Division of Administration to immediately release to members of the legislature any report generated by Chaffe and Associates relative to financial analysis and possible privatization of OGB.

Final Status: Considered; Failed