

SAMPLE LETTER

Date

Legislator's Name and Title
Senate/House District Number Represented
Street Number and Name
City, State and Zip Code

Dear Senator or Representative.....

As a retiree of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS), and as a member of RSEA of Louisiana (formerly known as the Retired State Employees Association), I am asking for your support of some very important retirement bills this legislative session. The bills deal specifically with cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) or permanent benefit increases (PBIs) for retired state employees.

Please support the following bills in the Senate: **SB 18** by Senator Elbert Guillory which provides for a 1.5% PBI for eligible retirees, survivors and beneficiaries of LASERS, AND, **SB 27** by Senator Michael A. Walsworth which provides for a supplemental benefit increase for retirees, survivors and beneficiaries (up to ½ of 1% increase to be determined).

Please support the following bills in the House of Representatives: **HB 30** by Representatives Sam Jones and Kenneth E. Havard, which provides for a PBI of 1.5%, funded by the LASERS Experience Account to eligible retirees and beneficiaries of LASERS; **HB 34** by Representative Sam Jones AND **HB 84** by Representative Katrina Jackson which both authorize a supplemental benefit increase (to be determined) for certain retirees and beneficiaries of LASERS; **HB 85** by Representative Katrina Jackson which provides for a PBI of 1.5% funded by the LASERS Experience Account to eligible retirees and beneficiaries of LASERS; **HB 88** by Representative Regina Barrow which (Constitutional Amendment) establishes the Seniors' Supplemental Fund through dedication of certain non-recurring revenues for making occasional supplemental payments to eligible retirees and beneficiaries of state retirement systems; AND **HB 90** by Representative Regina Barrow (Companion Bill to HB 88) which requires and provides for conditions and procedures for the provision of occasional supplemental payments to eligible retirees and beneficiaries of the four state retirement systems to the extent monies are available from the Seniors' Supplemental Fund.

This session will be the first opportunity since **2008** that all eligible retirees of LASERS are being considered for an increase in their pension checks. As noted, sufficient monies are available in the Experience Account to fund a 1.5% to 2% permanent benefit increase for eligible LASERS' retirees/beneficiaries. ***This PBI is greatly needed to help cover the costs of living which have continued to rise over the last 6 years while my pension has not.***

Thank you for your consideration, and once again, I am asking for your support in this extremely important matter!

Sincerely,

Your Name
Your Street
City, State Zip Code
Your Phone Number