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# Update No. 10

If you've missed any past updates, they're available on our website.

# The 2023 legislative session has begun!

On Jan. 3, the Minnesota Legislature was sworn in and began the work of the 2023 legislative session. There is a strong feeling of opportunity and excitement around this year's Legislature, considering the \$17.6 billion dollar surplus as well as the many new and pro-education lawmakers.

Our pension advocacy plan is now in <u>Phase III</u>, where we will continue to <u>organize our members</u> and work to move the process forward. Most important is that now we will be taking more and more actions to engage and move legislators to take actions to improve educator pensions!

Here are several important timelines, resources and details to share with all our pension advocates.

#### When will pension bills be introduced?

While bills can be authored now and until late in the session, we anticipate bills being submitted in the next month once discussions have progressed with boards, stakeholders and legislators. To date, there has not been a specific pension bill introduced, but we are continuing to draft pension bill language while we wait for the commission on pensions to begin their work. There's always the possibility that multiple pension-related bills will be authored by different legislators, that bills may be amended and that an end version of any bill that gets passed could look different than any version initially authored.

#### The Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement (LCPR)

Fourteen legislators will be assigned to the LCPR, likely in mid- to late January. Once the LCPR begins to meet, they will begin discussing any bills they decide to hear. No meetings have been scheduled as of now but when they are, <u>you can find them here</u>.

## **Contacting your legislator**

A resource now available is <u>a guide for members when contacting their</u> <u>legislators</u>. It covers the importance of the elected official and constituency link, how to escalate your actions and more tips to help you through the process.

## Legislator contact information

The <u>legislator contact information</u> provided by the Legislature should now be up to date for all elected officials.

\*Correction: The Tier 1 vs. Tier 2 comparison chart from the Dec. 20 update had a few numbers that were slightly off. They have now been corrected on the version of that email available on the website.

#### Important events/dates

- PERA board meetings <u>Dates</u>
- TRA board meetings <u>Dates</u> (upcoming is Jan. 18)
- SPTRFA board meetings <u>Dates</u>
- LCPR meetings <u>Dates</u>

## Resources

Education Minnesota pensions webpage TRA document on pension basics PERA member resources Public pension terminology Find your legislator here

If you have any questions, please email Adam Janiak.

