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Pension Updates



THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL
EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

Update No. 23

Some things we know about the Legislature to hold true is that things change from day to day but nothing is officially done until the session ends. And what is often the most difficult part for constituents and our members is that the legislative process isn't always a straight line or clear path. Keep organizing and fighting for better, and a big thank you to all members who are working in their locals to organize, asking questions and taking action to work together.

TRA board meeting TODAY

TRA announced yesterday that they are holding [a board meeting](#) at 2 p.m. TODAY. Jay Stoffel stated in the LCPR meeting that he would need to consult with his board prior to sharing information back with LCPR Chair Rep. Kaohly Vang Her.

LCPR update

Draft proposal

- The LCPR took input from all the plans, shared needs, advocacy and created its own proposal with the budget target. This is what happens most often in their process.
- The LCPR proposal did not completely meet the needs of many, if any, groups and showed the limitations of the budget target of \$600 million in one-time money.
- It's important to note that the chair of the LCPR shared that this is the largest budget target the LCPR has ever received. Your advocacy made that happen. Our pension system has been chronically underfunded and we need to keep pushing.

Next steps

- In the next week, we will continue to push the LCPR to come up with the best plan possible.
- Next Monday is the last scheduled LCPR meeting. However, they could meet again if needed and changes to any bill could be made throughout the session.
- We need to pressure legislators and the governor to provide a bigger investment. The LCPR has done what it can but needs more funding. The LCPR chair shared she asked for over \$3 billion in order to meet current needs.

- Be a part of our statewide actions.
- Join your local lobby day, our statewide lobby day, and make your own appointments to speak directly with your legislators. They can make more funding for pensions possible.

Targets for advocacy

- Contact Gov. Tim Walz, Senate Majority Leader Kari Dziedzic and House Speaker Melissa Hortman and ask them to increase the pension budget targets.
- Speak with your two legislators directly and seek their action to advocate for a bigger investment.

Pension rally questions

The overall legislative calendar is set well in advance but House and Senate hearings, floor sessions and other specifics aren't often known until the week or even day before they happen.

The April 3 pension rally at the Capitol is intended to demonstrate the passion around educator pensions and importance of that investment. Right now, we need to target legislators to raise funding and investment amounts from the state and employers as the LCPR can only work with what it's been given. We need to continue to put pressure on legislators throughout the rest of the session and into next year.

March 29 - Pension Town Hall

We're hosting a virtual pension town hall from 5-6 p.m. Wednesday, March 29. During this time, members will hear from LCPR Chair Rep. Kaohly Vang Her and LCPR member Rep. Dan Wolgamott on pension legislation and the overall legislative landscape. Let's get two or more members from every local attending!

Members must [register online here](#).

[Submit your questions here](#) for us to ask Reps. Her and Wolgamott. We will not be able to take questions during the town hall due to the high turnout. We will try to get to as many of your questions as possible, but cannot guarantee all will be asked due to time constraints.

April 3 – Pension Day of Action at the Capitol

[Join us at the Capitol](#) on Monday, April 3, to rally and speak with your legislators in person about the importance of investing in pensions.

[Register here for the 3:45 p.m. rally in the Capitol rotunda.](#)

An optional members-only briefing on current pension legislation will be held at 1 p.m. at Education Minnesota headquarters. Sign-making materials will be available.

[Register here for the 1 p.m. pensions briefing.](#)

Members are asked to reach out to their legislators if they'd like a personal meeting to talk about pension reform. [Find your legislators here](#).

April 20 - Pension Issue Lobby Day

Join members from across the state to speak with legislators about the importance of investing in pensions. [Register for this online event here](#).

If you have any questions, please email [Adam Janiak](mailto:adam.janiak@nea.org).

Keep organizing, sharing and talking to your colleagues about our plan. [Sign up and forward this Education Minnesota Pension Updates signup today or use the QR code below!](#)

