

State Universities Annuity Association



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Benefits of a SUAA Membership ***through voice, action, mission and visibility***

Representing all SURS participants and beneficiaries by bringing a lawsuit against Senate Bill 1 (Public Act 98-0599);

Representing SURS beneficiaries who signed the Irrevocable Election (Public Act 91-039) under 20 years of service for health insurance without additional costs but lower pension (university specific);

Provided information and sponsored seminars on the recent changes to retiree health insurance - both the College Insurance Program and the State Health Insurance Program;

Led the charge to defeat the addition of Section 5.1 to Article XIII of the State Constitution - SUAA CA 49 Ballot Initiative;

Blocked the call for a Constitutional Convention; and, blocking the call to Merge the five State-funded Pension Systems;

Members receive education through "Mini Briefings" and presentations; emails for Calls to Action through Legislative Alerts; unlimited access to SUAA website and its archives, Linked In, Face Book, and Twitter;

Has provided testimony before the legislature in both House and Senate hearings - Health Insurance Programs (both the College Insurance Program and the State Health Insurance Program) - Constitutional Amendment - Pensions - Constitutional Convention - Merging Pension Systems - University Employee Tuition Waivers - Health Insurance Contract faux pas - Pension Conference Committee;

Provides relevant, accurate information to legislators, legislative staff, governor's staff and other policymakers and jcommittees relating to pensions, health insurance and higher education;

Continues to provide input on legislation to be sponsored by legislators; opinions on legislative language already introduced; works to protect those with lower incomes and pensions;

Monitors both the House and the Senate Hearings and Sessions of the General Assembly;

Representation at Pension Workshops, Central Management Services State Health Insurance meetings, College Insurance Program Meetings, Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability Hearings and Meetings; meetings with each member of the Governor's Pension Reform Committee; meetings with each Chamber's leadership both Majority and Minority;

Facilitates two coalitions - Higher Education Legislative Coalition and the SERS/SURS Coalition; seats on the Illinois Retirement Security Initiative Advisory Board - Center for Tax and Budget Accountability; on the Illinois Channel Advisory Board and on the executive committee of the American Association of University Professionals;

Co-chair of the Illinois Society of Association Executives Legislative Committee - on-going legislation affecting associations and reporting requirements including lobbying;

Voice on the State Universities Retirement System's Roundtable; voice on the State Universities Retirement System's Member Advisory Committee (SURSMAC);

Non-voting member of the Illinois Education Legislative Caucus;

Statewide presentations to Civil Service local and annual meetings; American Association of University Professors; Illinois Community College Faculty Association; University Faculty Senates; Illinois Education Legislative Caucus; SUAA Regional Meetings; SUAA Chapter Meetings, SURS Board of Trustee Meetings, campus benefit and in-service days;

Newspaper and TV interviews regarding pension legislation and health insurance;

Supports women legislators through Conference on Women Legislators, supports the Latino Caucus Fall event and the Black Caucus Events; supports new legislative member breakfasts, lunches and receptions;

Continuing relationship with the State Universities Retirement System - annual Legislative Reception for all legislators and a dinner with the legislative pension leadership;

Members in SUAA are served by three lobbyists (one is always at the Capitol) and six staff members who provide assistance to all chapter leaders, all individual members and all grassroots lobbying efforts;

Working with many organizations and unions to keep higher education a strong commodity for the State of Illinois.

***These are the reasons to be a member of SUAA!
Be one of the many **voices** in Illinois! A **voice** in SUAA!***

Our benefits are growing . . .won't you join us?