

Weekly Update February 23, 2019

Hello AFSCME Retirees! We have concluded the third week of the 80th Nevada Legislative Session and things are looking good-though there's a lot of work still to do!

We finished our goal of reaching out to all 63 Legislators' offices and personally inviting them to our buffet dinner and no-host bar reception-coming up this Thursday at 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Gold Dust West in Carson City. We sent you all an invitation in your "Senior Moment" which you should have received by now. We hope you can join us-there's still time to RSVP if you haven't already. Please call 775-544-7338 or email our lobbyist Priscilla Maloney (maloneypriscilla@gmail.com) if you wish to come and haven't RSVP'd yet. We need to have a final count by the close of business Monday February 25, 2019.

As we have been introducing ourselves to this new legislature, we have been also educating them on how the two big trust funds (Nevada Public Employee Retirement System-PERS and Public Employees Benefit Program-PEBP) for state workers function, and provide secure retirements and health care benefits for our retirees and actives. This is especially important for new legislators-we have 15 new Assembly members and 3 new Senators who have never served before in the Nevada Legislature. A big part of our advocacy is educating new folks to the issues surrounding the functions of NV PERS and PEBP.

Along those lines, we had some good news this week from a non-legislative body. On Thursday February 21, the NV PERS board voted to take a position of opposition for purposes of this legislative session to two bills that were extremely concerning to us: AB 75 and SB 83. As we explained in the "Senior Moment", these bills were a "re-hash" of flawed PERS bills presented in the 2015 session. We made public comment back in the December 2018 NV PERS board meeting along with references to exhibits submitted opposing these bills back in 2015, and we believe that getting the conversation started then was productive to the PERS Board in reaching their conclusions this last week.

So again-please RSVP for our legislative reception next Thursday if you haven't already and come and see your new legislators and mingle among old friends!