

February 28, 2024

The Honorable Kristina Roegner
Chairwoman, Senate Government Oversight Committee
1 Capitol Square
Columbus OH 43215

Dear Chairwoman Roegner, Vice Chair Antani, Ranking Member Hicks-Hudson, and members of the Senate Government Oversight Committee,

On behalf of the STRS Ohio board and the approximately 530,000 active, retired, and inactive members, I am pleased to offer our support for House Concurrent Resolution 6, sponsored by Representatives King and Plummer. STRS Ohio appreciates Representatives King and Plummer offering this resolution to urge Congress to repeal the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP). No state has felt the impact of the WEP more acutely than Ohio, which has a higher percentage of non-Social Security covered public workers than any other state.

STRS Ohio retirees who also are eligible to collect a Social Security benefit are subject to the federal WEP, which reduces their Social Security benefit. The amount of the reduction is based on whether the retiree had any years of substantial earnings on which they contributed to Social Security.

For many years, STRS Ohio has advocated on a federal level for changes to WEP. Most recently, we submitted a letter to the United States House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means, Social Security Subcommittee encouraging Congress to find an equitable solution that would provide relief to our retirees who are currently subject to WEP. Unfortunately, no federal legislation regarding WEP has made it to the floor of the U.S. House or Senate for a vote.

I would like to express on behalf of STRS Ohio, our members and retirees, thanks to the sponsors – Representatives King and Plummer – for bringing this issue before the legislature.

Sincerely,

Lvnn Hoover

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Acting Executive Director

Cc: The Honorable Phil Plummer
The Honorable Angela King

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