



**STATE TEACHERS
RETIREMENT SYSTEM
OF OHIO**

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May 9, 2023

The Honorable Bob Young
Chairman, House Pensions Committee
77 South High Street
Columbus OH 43215

Dear Chairman Young, Vice Chair King, Ranking Member Lightbody, and members of the House Pensions 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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William J. Neville". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

William J. Neville
Executive Director

Cc: The Honorable Phil Plummer