

Federal health care reform update: Analyzing the legislation's impact on the OPERS retiree health care plan

A message from Chris DeRose, CEO

The subject of health care insurance reform at the national level has been the focus of much speculation and media attention for well over a year now. In March, a far-reaching and complex federal health care reform bill was passed and signed into law by President

Obama. OPERS has received many inquiries via e-mail, letter and phone from our retirees concerned whether the health care reform legislation will impact our retiree health care coverage plan. I would like to take this opportunity to update you on our involvement as Congress debated the various versions of health care reform legislation and also our approach to analyzing the final legislation and implementing any necessary federal requirements or modifications to our existing plan.

OPERS watched very closely as the initial reform bills were introduced and

the details began to take shape. We played an active role in Washington, engaging with members of the Ohio Congressional delegation to ensure that they understood that our Board of Trustees has made a commitment to offer health care coverage to retirees and their dependents for as long as possible. We also engaged our delegation on issues relating to the cost of prescription drugs, Medicare Advantage, the age span of our retiree population and many other health care related matters.

Now that the legislation is finalized, we are conducting an in-depth analysis to determine what impact the many provisions may have on the OPERS retiree health care plan and retirees participating in the plan. It is possible that many of the provisions will have no impact on the plan at all. Certain provisions could result in a cost savings once enacted and others may prove to be cost neutral or even increase costs.



Chris DeRose

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OPERS NEWS – Your Benefit Connection is a quarterly newsletter providing news and information to more than 160,000 age and service retirees, disability benefit recipients and survivor benefit recipients of the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System. This publication allows us to communicate vital information concerning retirement benefits and health care coverage to our retirees and also educate them on the services we provide.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

www.opers.org

1-800-222-7377

Monday - Friday

7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

newsfeedback@opers.org

At first examination, OPERS staff members have identified areas within the legislation that may impact our plan. We are examining all of the provisions in collaboration with our health care plan administrators, actuaries and legal counsel.

Under the bill's provisions, a number of federal regulatory decisions and rules need to be implemented before many of the changes can be made. Some of the rules may not be in place until 2014, with federal guidance following shortly thereafter. For example, funding for health care exchanges will be available to states within one year of enactment and until January 1, 2015. The Medicare provisions contain a number of effective dates that may be important to our retirees and our health care plan; once guidance is released by the Federal Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services and we have completed our evaluation of the legislation, we will be able to communicate the results to you.

The welfare of our retirees and the solvency of the OPERS health care fund are our main priorities when analyzing the legislation. Our Board's intent is to continue providing a plan which helps improve or maintain the health of current and future OPERS retirees while complying with all applicable provisions of the legislation.

More detailed information will become available in the coming months as we complete our analysis and determine if modifications need to be made to our plan. Please continue to read your OPERS newsletters and visit www.opers.org where we will post information as it becomes available. General information about the legislation's contents and progress is also available at the following websites:

www.kaiserhealthnews.org

www.healthreform.gov

It is your responsibility to be certain that OPERS has your current address on file. If OPERS is not made aware of address changes, we cannot guarantee that you will receive important information pertaining to your OPERS account.

This newsletter is written in plain language for use by members of the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System. It is not intended as a substitute for the federal or state law, namely the Ohio Revised Code, the Ohio Administrative Code, or the Internal Revenue Code, nor will its interpretation prevail should a conflict arise between it and the Ohio Revised Code, Ohio Administrative Code, or Internal Revenue Code. Rules governing the retirement system are subject to change periodically either by statute of the Ohio General Assembly, regulation of the Ohio Public Employees Retirement Board, or regulation of the Internal Revenue Code. If you have questions about this material, please contact our office or seek legal advice from your attorney.

My Benefits System

No waiting necessary! Access your personal information instantly

My Benefits System (MBS) offers instant access to your personal account and monthly payment information, instant health care coverage cost estimates and the opportunity to print a duplicate Form 1099-R – that’s right – instantly! You can also schedule a counseling session, register for a seminar or submit a question using the secure Message Center.

Registering for MBS automatically provides OPERS with your e-mail address. We will soon begin providing news alerts to members via e-mail. Alerts will be sent when the need arises to communicate an important issue to our membership quickly. Register for MBS and be one of the first to receive news about your retirement.

MBS Registration

There’s no reason to wait on the phone or wait for the mail to receive personalized information about your retirement benefit. Register for MBS today – it’s quick and easy.

1. Log on to www.opers.org
2. Click on the MBS “Register” button in the top, right corner of the home page. You will need your social security number and an active e-mail account. MBS will guide you through the registration process.

Selecting to receive your OPERS newsletter online

Once registered, it’s simple to select online publications which saves time and significant paper and postage costs:

1. Log in to MBS and select the “My Contact Info” tab. The first box on the page allows you to be sure your e-mail address is correct. If not, click on “Edit” (on right side of box) and enter the correct one. Please remember to update your e-mail address in MBS if it changes.
2. The second box on the page contains your correspondence preferences. Click on the word “Edit” on the right side of the box to adjust your preferences to online publications.
3. Check the box next to “Ohio PERS NEWS – Your Benefit Connection” that reads, “I elect to be notified via email when newsletters are available at www.opers.org.” In the future, you will receive an e-mail containing a link to the latest newsletter issue on the day it’s posted to the site.

Legislative update

Update: OPERS Board of Trustees recommends changes to pension plan design

Last November the OPERS Board of Trustees recommended changes in pension plan design to the Ohio Retirement Study Council (ORSC). In May 2009, the ORSC requested all five of Ohio's public pension systems examine their benefit plans with the goal of ensuring long-term fiscal strength. The OPERS Board's recommended pension plan changes are part of a proactive, comprehensive funding plan designed to keep OPERS' pensions secure and allow us to provide access to retiree health care coverage for as long as possible.

Current OPERS retirees will not have their pension benefit affected by this set of recommended changes.

The suggested changes include modifications to benefit plan design for active members and a change to the annual Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for future retirees. Active members who do not retire prior to the effective date of the legislation enacting these changes will receive an annual COLA equal to the change in the Consumer Price Index up to 3 percent rather than the current 3 percent simple COLA. Individuals already receiving a pension benefit from OPERS will continue to receive an annual 3 percent simple COLA.

A more detailed explanation of the recommended changes and our transition plan can be found in the Special Coverage section of our website, www.opers.org. The section features a document explaining the proposed changes in detail and also a presentation that is being used as part of our outreach efforts.

Since receiving the Board's recommendations last fall, the ORSC has worked with the legislature to draft a bill encompassing pension plan design changes for all five Ohio pension systems. Once a bill is officially introduced, we hope the ORSC will vote to send it to the House and Senate committees for review yet this year.

We are pursuing these pension plan changes with two goals in mind – providing retirement security for public employees in Ohio and continuing to provide health care coverage for our retirees and their beneficiaries.

As the legislative process of enacting the recommended pension changes moves forward, the newest information and announcements will be available within the Special Coverage section on the OPERS website. Upcoming newsletters will also feature reports on the progress of this important legislation.

Senate Bill 219

OPERS staff has provided testimony on SB 219 as an interested party. SB 219 is a bill that aims to terminate disability benefits of a public retirement system member convicted of certain felonies committed while serving in a position of honor, trust, or profit. After three hearings, the bill was amended to incorporate the technical changes recommended by OPERS and was unanimously reported out of the Senate Health, Human Services & Aging Committee. The bill was then referred to the House Financial Institutions, Real Estate & Securities Committee where it is currently pending.

Learn to invest wisely at Investor.gov

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has introduced a new website for investors, Investor.gov. The mission of the SEC is to protect investors, maintain fair, orderly, and efficient markets, and facilitate capital formation. As more and more first-time investors turn to the markets to help secure their futures, pay for homes, and send children to college, the SEC's investor protection mission is more important than ever.

Information is the investor's best tool when it comes to investing wisely. Visit Investor.gov and learn more about smart investing, test your "Money Smarts," find answers to your questions about investing and investing online. You'll also find tips for getting started in investing, protecting your money from fraud and investing as a senior.

OPERS investments show positive returns in 2009

The OPERS defined benefit and health care funds ended 2009 with positive investment returns. Total assets stood at \$68.8 billion on Dec. 31, 2009. This increase represents a 19.1 percent return for the defined benefit fund and a 24.8 percent return for the health care fund.* On Dec. 31, 2008, total assets stood at \$59.2

billion after a negative 26.9 percent return.

Although these positive returns are encouraging and indicate a recovering market, OPERS still has a way to go toward regaining the assets lost during the economic downturn of 2008. During our 75-year history, we

have positioned our investments with a disciplined approach designed to weather market volatility. We will continue with this long term approach to investing. Our focus remains on providing secure retirement benefits for public employees in Ohio.

**Based on preliminary, unaudited investment returns for 2009*

United States Census 2010

Opening your door to a census taker opens doors for your community

The U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States, and is required by the Constitution to take place every 10 years.

The 2010 Census will help communities receive more than \$400 billion in federal funds each year for things like:

- **Hospitals**
- **Job training centers**
- **Schools**
- **Senior centers**
- **Bridges, tunnels and other public works projects**
- **Emergency services**

The data collected by the census also helps determine the number of seats our state has in the U.S. House of Representatives. OPERS encourages all members to complete the census form to ensure federal dollars are returned to our state.

Census forms needed to be sent back by April 16. On May 1, census takers will begin going door-to-door to roughly 1/3 of households that did not mail back their forms.

By being counted you are standing up for what your community's needs are. That's why census takers are so

important. A census taker is a person from your community who is hired by the Census Bureau to make sure that your neighborhood gets represented as accurately as possible. The census taker's primary responsibility is to collect census information from residences that have not sent back their 2010 Census form.

The Census Bureau provides the census taker with the names and addresses of citizens who did not send back a completed census form. The census taker then visits all of those addresses and records the answers to the questions on the form.

If no one answers at a particular residence, a census taker will visit that home up to three times, each time leaving a door hanger featuring a phone number; residents can call the number on the hanger to schedule the visit. The census taker will ONLY ask the questions that appear on the census form. The census taker who collects your information is sworn for life to protect your data under Federal Law Title 13.

Source: www.2010census.gov

Your Voice, Your Choice

2010 OPERS Board of Trustees Election

As a retired member of OPERS, you have a voice in decisions and policies affecting your retirement benefits. OPERS retirees have two representatives on the Board of Trustees. The Board is ultimately responsible for all administration and management of OPERS including setting retirement system policies, approving the overall investment plan and asset allocation strategy, reviewing and approving budgets and acting as fiduciaries of the System. Individuals elected to the OPERS Board of Trustees also automatically serve on the Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Program Board.

Your Voice - Elected Representatives

The OPERS Board of Trustees is comprised of 11 trustees—seven individuals are elected by the specific group each represents. Two individuals represent retirees and the other five each represent an employee group. The seven elected positions are designated for election on a staggered basis, ensuring experience and organizational knowledge is stable from year to year. Three individuals with investment expertise are appointed by Ohio's Governor, Treasurer and jointly by the Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives and the President of the Ohio Senate. The Director of the Ohio Department of Administrative Services also serves on the Board of Trustees by virtue of office.

2010 OPERS Board of Trustees election schedule

Nominating petitions available	June 11
Completed petitions due	August 2
Voting materials mailed	August 23
All votes must be received by	October 1
Election count	October 4

Election 2010

Elections for four seats on the OPERS and Ohio Deferred Compensation Boards of Trustees will be held in September. Those elected will serve four-year terms beginning in January 2011.



The four seats up for election in 2010 include one representative for each of the following groups:

Retirees—One of two seats representing approximately 150,000 age and service and disability retirees. The other retiree representative was elected in 2009.

State employees—Representing those working at a job for the state of Ohio (approximately 55,432 employees)

State colleges and universities—Representing approximately 55,141 non-teaching employees at state colleges and universities in Ohio

Municipal employees—Representing approximately 65,783 employees working for Ohio's municipalities

Your Choice – Every vote counts

It's important to realize every single OPERS retiree and member is represented by a Board member. Just as in national and local elections for public office, your vote—your voice—is vital. Members of the Board of Trustees serve four-year terms. That means that every four years you have the opportunity, and the responsibility, to select your Board representative.

Voter participation in the 2009 Board election averaged only about 29 percent for retirees. If your representative is up for election this year, please plan to cast your vote! Your retirement and your representation on the OPERS Board are too important not to participate in the election process.

Serve as the voice for your fellow retirees

Any OPERS retiree receiving an age and service retirement benefit or a disability benefit is eligible for election as a retiree representative. Any active OPERS member, with the exception of one receiving a disability benefit, is eligible for election to represent the members of their employee group on the OPERS Board of Trustees.

Members of the Board are not paid for their work, but are reimbursed for expenses. They live all across Ohio and travel to Columbus each month for Board of Trustee meetings. Some Board members need to arrange time off from their jobs to handle their Board responsibilities.

The nomination process

Under Ohio law, a candidate seeking election to a retiree representative Board seat is required to obtain a minimum of 250 signatures from OPERS retirees. At least 5 different Ohio counties must be represented by a minimum of 10 signatures each. A candidate seeking election to an employee member Board seat is required to obtain a minimum of 500 signatures from active members within their employee group. At least 10 different counties must be represented by a minimum of 20 signatures each.

Nominating petition packets will be available on Friday, June 11 for distribution to interested candidates. Packets will be available at the OPERS office, 277 East Town Street, Columbus, Ohio and also on the OPERS website, www.opers.org. These packets contain official nominating petitions and all other necessary forms to be completed by the candidate.

Completed nominating petitions and forms are due at the OPERS office no later than 4:30 p.m., Monday, August 2; petitions postmarked on this date, but received later, are invalid. Any candidate successfully meeting the above nomination criteria will be placed on an official ballot. Every effort is made to ensure that each candidate is given equal space and placement on the ballot. Voting materials will be mailed to qualified voters on August 23. Eligible members and retirees will be able to vote until October 1. The election count is scheduled for Monday, October 4. The final results will be certified by the Secretary of State's office.

Working for your retirement security

Listed here are some of the OPERS Board's recent and most notable accomplishments aimed at providing retirement security for all OPERS members.

- Recommended changes to OPERS benefit plan design to strengthen the pension fund for current and future retirees
- Helped to create and implement the Health Care Preservation Plan designed to extend the retiree health care fund and provide coverage for as long as possible
- Supported measures to ensure the 2010 state of Ohio budget did not include a cut in contributions
- Split assets into pension and health care funds with separate, tailored investment strategies
- Evaluated new retiree health care plan administrators for 2010

Delivering value, convenience and peace of mind

Express Scripts Home Delivery Program

Why Home Delivery?

Home Delivery from the Express Scripts pharmacy offers both convenience and value for those prescription drugs you take for ongoing conditions. When you choose the Home Delivery Program for your maintenance medications, you never have to wait in line at the drugstore. Your medication is mailed right to your home and standard shipping is always FREE.

Does it cost more to have my prescriptions delivered?

No. Using the Home Delivery Program actually saves you money. The OPERS Board of Trustees has approved a

2010 Humana Medicare Advantage Plan & Medical Mutual Enhanced Plan	
Generic	\$4 Retail - 30 days \$10 Mail - 90 days
Formulary Brand (Preferred)	\$20 Retail - 30 days \$50 Mail - 90 days
Non-Formulary Brand (Non-Preferred)	\$50 Retail - 30 days \$125 Mail - 90 days

reduction in your Home Delivery copayment for 2010. Your Home Delivery copayment is two-and-a-half times the copayment for a 30-day supply at a drug

store. That means you will get a 90-day supply of your prescription through Express Scripts Pharmacy for less than you would pay at a drug store.

Express Scripts also offers the *Bill Me Later* program. This program allows for an easier transition to Home Delivery

because you can pay for orders over time. Contact Express Scripts or visit www.express-scripts.com for details.

How can I be sure I'll receive the correct medication?

The Express Scripts Pharmacy uses highly automated, state-of-the art technology to deliver superior dispensing accuracy. In fact, the accuracy rate at the Express Scripts Pharmacy is 99.9 percent. Each Home Delivery prescription is checked by a minimum of two registered pharmacists.

How long will it take to receive my prescriptions using Home Delivery?

When you fill a prescription through the Express Scripts Pharmacy for the first time, you can expect delivery of your order within two weeks from the time Express Scripts receives the prescription from your doctor. For new prescriptions, Express Scripts recommends asking your doctor for two prescriptions - one 30-day prescription for your drug store and the second one to be submitted for Home Delivery. Refills of established prescriptions typically take three to five days to process and ship.

How can I get started?

Join the millions who trust Home Delivery. There are two easy ways to sign up. Go to www.StartHomeDelivery.com, log in and sign up - or - call 1-866-727-5873, Monday through Friday, 8:30am to 6:00pm, Eastern.

Never run out of your medication - Sign up for automatic refills!

The Express Scripts Auto Refill Program is a Home Delivery service enhancement designed to assist you in never running out of a medication. After enrolling your maintenance prescriptions in the program, Express Scripts will automatically calculate your prescription usage and supply remaining. When it's time to refill your prescriptions, Express Scripts will fill them for you automatically and mail them to your home.

Auto Refill Benefits:

Peace of Mind: You will no longer need to worry about remembering to refill your medications.

Maintain an adequate supply:

Express Scripts will replenish your medication for you based on your prescribed dosage regimen set by your doctor so that you can take your medication regularly.

Convenience: Express Scripts does all the work for you and helps you

save money by delivering 90 day refills to your home with no charge for standard shipping.

How to enroll:

Visit www.express-scripts.com, click on "Refill Prescriptions" and select the prescriptions you would like to have automatically refilled.

Or, you can speak directly to an Express Scripts patient care advocate to enroll your prescription(s) in the program by calling 1-866-727-5873.

A new medical plan administrator can bring changes

If you are Medicare eligible, please consider the following processes that may be different now that your medical coverage is with Humana.

Prior Authorizations: The Humana Medicare Advantage plan must adhere to CMS guidelines and regulations which require that all covered services are medically necessary. Therefore, there are certain services which do require prior authorization before the medical procedure is covered. For example, Humana requires prior authorization for all physical therapy, MRI and CT scan testing, pain management treatments, and durable medical equipment. Have your provider contact Humana to provide the appropriate medical information to facilitate this review process. If you have questions regarding your medical coverage or want to learn more about services requiring prior authorization, please contact Humana at 1-877-890-4777.

Power of Attorney (POA): If you have an active power of attorney or durable power of attorney document on file with OPERS and/or your previous medical coverage administrator, you will need to file a separate POA with

Humana. If you have questions about filing a POA, please contact Humana.

Deductibles and Coinsurance: Retirees participating in the Humana Medicare Advantage plan must meet their \$250 deductible before most services are paid at 96%. More information regarding deductibles and coinsurance is available within the 2010 OPERS Coverage Guide. The guide can be found by visiting www.opers.org. You can also contact Humana at 1-877-890-4777 with questions.

Cost-share for Medicare Part B Supplies: Retirees participating in the Humana Medicare Advantage plan may experience a change in their share of the cost of Medicare Part B-covered drugs and supplies (including diabetic supplies) in 2010. Please contact Humana with questions.

Silver Sneakers: Participation in the Humana Medicare Advantage Plan entitles retirees to a free fitness center membership to any facility in the Silver Sneakers network. To find a Silver Sneakers facility in your area, visit www.silversneakers.com. To nominate a facility in your area to be added to the network, please contact Humana at 1-877-890-4777.

Reminder: New rule affecting health care coverage costs for spouses effective Jan. 1, 2011

Effective Jan. 1, 2011, OPERS will no longer subsidize the monthly health care premium cost for spouses of retirees who are under the age of 55.

This change will affect the spouses of current and future retirees. If your spouse is under age 55, you may continue to cover them under the OPERS health care plan. However, you will be responsible for the full health care premium. Once your spouse reaches age 55, OPERS will

again subsidize their health care coverage premium.

The rule does not apply to dependent children, spouses of disability recipients, spouses with early Medicare or any spouse who is receiving a benefit as the surviving spouse of an age and service retiree (joint and survivor annuity) or as the surviving spouse of a deceased working member (receiving a survivor benefit).

If you are currently covering a spouse under the age of 55 who will be impacted by this rule change, the new cost for their coverage in 2011 will be reflected on your 2011 Open Enrollment Cost Statement. Cost statements will be mailed to retirees in September.

Please visit the OPERS website for more information.

2010 health care seminars for retirees

The 2010 OPERS retiree health care seminar schedule is listed below. These seminars are designed to address the needs and concerns of those receiving an OPERS benefit and participating in the OPERS health care plan. Discussion topics include medical/pharmacy coverage, other optional coverage (dental and vision), preventive benefits and wellness programs. Each seminar will also feature a question and answer session at the end.

Registration is required and seminars do fill quickly. Please register by calling OPERS at 1-800-222-7377 or visiting www.opers.org to register using My Benefits System (MBS). All seminars begin at 10 a.m. and last approximately two hours.

2010 OPERS health care seminars

Athens June 4	Independence July 15 Nov. 12	Westlake Aug. 27
Cincinnati (Sharonville) Nov. 12	Lima Dec. 3	Youngstown (Boardman) Sept. 10
Columbus (Dublin) May 24	Mansfield Nov. 19	
Columbus (OPERS) Aug. 20 Nov. 19	Portsmouth June 25	
	Ravenna Dec. 10	
Dayton Aug. 20	Steubenville June 18	
Huron Aug. 13	Toledo Aug. 27	

OPERS offers rewards for managing your health

In 2010, retirees and their covered spouses can each earn up to a \$100 deposit into their Retiree Medical Account (RMA) by participating in the OPERS personal health management program. Retirees are eligible to earn \$50 for each of the following activities (up to a maximum of \$100 per year):

- Complete a Health Assessment
- Undergo an annual physical exam
- Complete a Wellness Program
- Successfully participate in a Disease Management Program

Programs vary for those retirees participating in the Humana Medicare Advantage Plan and those participating in the Medical Mutual Plan. **Please call or visit your plan administrator's website for more information, instructions for enrollment and specific completion criteria.**

Humana (1-877-890-4777, www.humana.com/opers) wellness programs include:

- Smoking Cessation
- Weight Management
- Stress
- Nutrition
- Back Care

Medical Mutual (1-877-520-6728, www.medmutual.com) lifestyle coaching programs are six-month programs addressing all lifestyle risks including:

- Tobacco Use Cessation
- Weight Loss & Management
- Exercise
- Nutrition
- Stress

Health Assessments available online

Getting on the path to improved health is now even more convenient. You can take the first step in participating in a wellness program by completing a Health Assessment online.

Health assessments can be found on both the Humana (www.humana.com/opers) and Medical Mutual (www.medmutual.com) websites. Log on, complete an assessment and be on your way to a healthier you!

2010 calendar of educational seminars

RETIREE SEMINAR – This three-hour seminar is designed exclusively for OPERS retirees and benefit recipients. Topics range from taxation of your pension benefits and re-employment to health care coverage and Social Security. There is no cost to attend and you may bring a guest. Please register your guest's name when you enroll yourself. You can also register for this seminar using My Benefits System (MBS) at www.opers.org.

2010 RETIREE SEMINARS

Cincinnati East Aug. 24	Dayton Dec. 1	Perrysburg Oct. 19
Columbus OPERS Aug. 5 Oct. 12	Eastlake Aug. 10 Mansfield June 22	Youngstown/ Boardman Sept. 21

REMOTE COUNSELING SESSIONS – If you live outside the Columbus area and wish to discuss your pension benefits with a benefits counselor, you can schedule a remote counseling session. Counseling sessions are also available by phone. Call 1-800-222-7377 to make an appointment.

2010 REMOTE COUNSELING SESSIONS

Cincinnati Eastgate Nov. 1 - 4	Dover/ New Philadelphia Aug. 23 - 26	
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Ohio PERS Board of Trustees

The 11-member Ohio PERS Board of Trustees is responsible for the administration and management of Ohio PERS. Seven of the 11 members are elected by the groups that they represent (i.e., college and university non-teaching employees, state, county, municipal, miscellaneous employees, and retired members); the Director of the Department of Administrative Services for the state of Ohio is a statutory member, and three members are investment experts appointed by the Governor, the Treasurer of State, and jointly by the Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives and the President of the Ohio Senate.

Elected Board Members

Eddie Parks
State Employees

Sharon M. Downs
Retired Members

John W. Maurer
Retired Members

Kimberly Russell
State College and University Employees

Cynthia Sledz
Vice Chair
Miscellaneous Employees

Ken Thomas
Chair
Municipal Employees

Helen Youngblood
County Employees

Statutory Board Member

Hugh Quill
Director, Department of Administrative Services

Appointed Board Members

Lennie Wyatt
Investment Expert
Governor Appointee

Charlie Adkins
Investment Expert
Treasurer of State
Appointee

James R. Tilling
Investment Expert
General Assembly
Appointee

Chris DeRose
Chief Executive Officer



Ohio Public Employees
Retirement System

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YOUR BENEFIT CONNECTION

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Recognizing 75 years of retirement security

As the people of our country were experiencing the Great Depression, the Ohio Legislature took the groundbreaking step of providing secure retirement for public employees in Ohio.

2010 marks the 75th anniversary of the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, which was established on Jan. 1, 1935. For three-quarters of a century we've been providing a secure retirement for public workers, supporting our state's economy and making a positive difference in the quality of life of hundreds of thousands of people who rely on us. For 75 years, our staff has worked diligently to provide retirement, disability and survivor benefits, health care coverage, diversified investing, cost-effective administration and accurate accounting for nearly 1 million Ohioans.

To commemorate this milestone, we've designed a 75th anniversary logo that you'll see on our website and in our correspondence to you this year. More importantly we believe our 75th anniversary is a prime time to reflect on the accomplishments of the retirement system and also renew our commitment to providing secure retirement benefits to Ohio's public employees. We want to thank our members for helping make the first 75 years of our existence such a success.

