



## URGENT!

Dear Washington Retiree,

Thank you for your service to our state. Because of your work, Washington is a great place to live, raise a family and retire.

But did you know that your pension is not fully funded?

PERS Plan 2/3 is only 89 percent funded. And the special-interest backed Washington Policy Center and others are using this fact as a reason to attack our pensions. They are a part of the State Policy Network, which has been successful in cutting pensions in other states.

It's not just at the state level. Were you aware that the tax bill passed by Congress initially had proposed to tax our pensions' investment returns?

Since 75 percent of every pension dollar paid out comes from investment returns, this would have crippled our systems' ability to pay out benefits. This proposal was taken out only three hours before the final bill passed. All so Congress could give more tax breaks to big corporations and the rich ...

**With all that's going on, you're probably wondering what can you do to protect the retirement you earned?**

Join us, the 10,000 retired public service workers of Retired Public Employees Council of Washington (RPEC), in fighting to protect the benefits we earned through a lifetime of public service here in Washington.

When Congress came dangerously close to taxing public pensions, we flew into action. We organized and got the pension taxes removed from the final legislation. But now they're saying that they will need to cut programs like Medicare and Medicaid to pay for the tax breaks.

And that's why we are asking you to join RPEC: To protect your benefits.

*Over, please.*

**If YOU aren't fighting to preserve the freedom your hard-earned retirement benefits give you, who will?**

RPEC is the leading voice fighting to protect our pensions, health care, Medicare and Social Security.

Here in Washington state, our members sit on the Select Committee for Pension Policy, the Public Employees Benefit Board, the Department of Retirement Systems (DRS) Advisory Committee, and work with the State Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA). We fight to protect the benefits retirees like you and I earned through a lifetime of public service.

RPEC is part of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), the leading voice of public service retirees and workers. Together with the public service workers and retirees of AFSCME throughout the nation, we have real power to protect and expand retirement security.

Retirees have power to win when we mobilize. But we need you with us if we're going to continue to win. We know that by uniting together we have the strength to protect the benefits we have earned.

**So, I'm asking you: Are these important enough reasons to join?**

Joining is easy. All you have to do is complete the membership application enclosed and return it in the postage-paid envelope. Dues are only \$7 a month.

Here's the bottom line: When it comes to fighting for our retirement security, RPEC knows how to get things done.

Not only that, but membership has its benefits. Members can receive exclusive benefits as part of the AFSCME Advantage program (go to [afscme.org/advantage](http://afscme.org/advantage) for more information).

Please join us today so we can continue protecting pensions and health care.

Sincerely,



Kandy Kraig  
President

Retired Public Employees Council of WA

## Membership and Authorization for Dues Deduction

**I will help protect my retirement by joining the Retired Public Employees Council of Washington Today.\***

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Sec. Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**My spouse too!**

Spouse Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Sec. Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

\*By signing your name, you agree to these terms and conditions:

I authorize DRS to regularly deduct a sufficient amount from my retirement allowance to pay the amount required for my union/organization dues at my request, under this program. Deductions will continue until the deduction plan is canceled through the union/organization office. I understand that DRS cannot answer questions about my union or organization. RPEC is 501c5 organization. Not tax deductible.

Note: Dues are \$7 per month  PERS Plan 2  PERS Plan 3

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone\*\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*By providing your cell phone number you consent to receive calls (including recorded or autodialed calls, or texts) at that number from AFSCME and its affiliated labor, political and charitable organizations on any subject matter. Your carrier's rates may apply. You may modify your preferences at: <https://www.afscme.org/tcpa>.