

SC Retirement Joint Legislative Committee

September 27, 2016

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The SCEA

- Employee and employer contribution rates have risen consistently over the past few years. Employees now pay over 8.5%. Some of the highest contribution rates in the nation.
- To continue to put burden on the backs of teachers and employees is untenable and will cause SC to fall even further behind in teacher recruitment and retention.
- Providing teachers and school employees a suitable retirement plan is necessary to recruit and retain quality teachers and employees
- It is also provides a huge economic benefit to SC.
- The public pension plans in SC creates and supports over 27,000 jobs across SC
- And adds \$3.7 billion dollars to the economy according to a report published by the National Institute on Retirement Security.
- Retirees spending by SC's provides \$1,152,700 of income across the state. (National Institute on Retirement Security)
- This income make purchases the money spent translates into business, revenues, jobs and income.
- Retirees spending generates additional tax revenue for SC, not only through sales and income tax paid by retirees, but additional tax revenue is generated through the additional jobs created due to the spending additional income tax paid by the employees in these jobs, and the additional spending of those who hold the additional jobs created by retiree spending.
- It is imperative to SC's future that the SC Retirement System be adequately funded by the Legislature.

- It is important to provide retirement benefits without putting an unreasonable burden on the backs of teachers, school employees and all participants in the SC Retirement System.
- Retirees live on a limited income, and they spend, for the most part, this income in state creating and supporting jobs, more tax revenue, with a very significant economic development impact.
- Therefore, it is essential that, at the least, the current pension adjustment be maintained for those who have spent their lives serving the children and citizens of SC.