State Universities Annuitants Association



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SUAA Mini Briefing

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FALL is here! With it comes the legislative Fall Veto Session (October 24, 25, 26 and November 7, 8, 9). Also scheduled is the SUAA Fall Board Meeting on October 24th. Registration will begin Monday, September 18, 2017. All SUAA members are invited to attend. Notification of the meeting with details will come via email from SUAA.

The summer was scattered with special legislative sessions; many would say an overabundance. For SUAA there was no legislation during this time that directly affected the membership. However, there was quite a bit of action being followed and tracked by the SUAA staff.



Thus far, HJRCA0018 remains in Rules Committee. This Constitutional Amendment proposes to amend the General Provisions of Article XIII, Section 5 of the Illinois Constitution. This is the Pension Protection Article. Because 2018 is an election year, the possibility of this moving forward is slight. The Amendment will remain on the SUAA watch list.

Other issues on the horizon is the Hybrid Pension proposal for both Tier II and Tier III. While there is not a lot of information at this time regarding just how the Hybrid would actually be implemented, questions keep popping up about the reality of the plan. SUAA will be addressing this at the Fall Board Meeting.

HB 4045 is sitting in the Senate. Current action dated 08.04.2017, bill has been referred to Assignments. Content includes currently working Tier I and the Hybrid pension plan for Tier III – new hires. While this bill is not expected to move during Veto Session, it is on the top of the watch list. This bill did pass the House. Senate is likely to make changes going forward.

SUAA continues to track changes to current legislation and the introduction of new bills. Even though the legislators are not currently in Springfield, this does not mean that all is silent.

Here is a list of legislators who will not be seeking re-election:

<u>House</u> – Democrats are McAsey, Phelps (already replaced), Drury, Soto, Stratton, Wallace (running for Lt. Governor with Biss), Nekritz, Beiser, Sente, Fine (running for Senate). Republicans are Pritchard, Hays, B. Wheeler, Bellock, Mitchell, Fortner, Andersson, Jimenez, Stewart.



<u>Senate</u> – <u>Democrats</u> are Biss (running for governor), Haine. <u>Republicans</u> are Radogno (already replaced), Bivins, McCarter. There is potential for more to decide not to run.

Grassroots activity will need to be at an all-time high, as SUAA and its chapters get to know the candidates.



- October 20 <u>UIC Forum</u> 11:30 in room **302 Student Center East (SCE), 750 S. Halsted Street, Chicago.** "Our Pensions and the Budget: The Fight is NOT Over" UIC Professor David Merriman and UIUC Professor J. Fred Giertz with UIC Professor Rachel Weber as Moderator. Light refreshments and an informal discussion will follow. All Chapters invited.
- October 24 <u>SUAA Fall Board Meeting</u> at 10:00 a.m. Illinois State University Alumni Center **1101 N. Main Street, Normal, IL 61761** *Continental Breakfast for early arrivers and Lunch for all.* SUAA Foundation Meeting begins at 9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast available. A representative from each chapter is welcome to attend.
- November 2 <u>Illinois Eastern Community Colleges</u> will meet in the Olney Central College Banquet Room near the cafeteria. Located at **305 N West St, Olney, IL 62450** All chapters invited. Ralph Matire, Executive Director of the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability will provide a presentation on the Graduated Income Tax. SUAA supports a State Graduated Income Tax. Attend to find out why! The cost is \$5.00. A light supper will be included. Begins at 5:00 p.m. Reservations should be made by emailing <u>dmers@nwcable.net</u>. Payment can be made at the door.

FALL VETO SESSION is October 24, 25, 26 and November 7, 8, 9.

SUAA cannot urge the membership enough to use the new website.

We would also encourage you to download the new APP. It is free.

Instructions:

- 1. Go to your Android or Apple app store
- 2. Download: OurOwnApp
- 3. The User Name is: SUAA
- 4. The Password is 2017

That is all there is to it! Make sure your phone allows you to save the User Name and Password. This will make it much easier to use.

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Many chapters are having meetings this fall, some with special topics. Be sure to catch-up and be active in your chapter.

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Does your night-time reading need a lift? Try these articles.

The Costs of Corruption Weigh Heavily on Illinois by Jim Nowlan

Fact-check: Does the State's New Education Law Create a 'Voucher Program' by Matt Dietrech

SUAA is sponsoring a trip to the Canadian Rockies & Glacier National Park next summer.

The dates are July 08 to July 15, 2018.

Click Here for more information

<u>Click Here to watch the recorded overview video</u> You will need to register in order to see the video