New Hampshire: Politics, Advocacy, and Engagement

NCPERS 2019 Public Pension Funding Forum
September 11 – 13
New York, NY
NH Retirement Security Coalition

2007-2010
- Creation Of Coalition
- Change To Funding Methodology
  - 1st Decennial Commission
- Legislative Changes - COLAs

American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees - Council 93
American Federation of Teachers - NH
National Education Association - NH
New England Police Benevolent Association
NH Retired Educators Association
NH School Administrators Association
NH Higher Education Union - a division of IBEW Local 2320
NH Troopers Association
Professional Fire Fighters of NH
State Employees Association of NH - SEIU Local 1984
Teamsters Local 633

2011
- Coordinator Position Created
- Major Pension Legislation - Tiered System

2012-2016
- Major Defined Contribution Fight

2017-Present
- Defined Contribution And Cash Balance Legislation
  - Governor's 2nd Decennial Commission
    - $500 - 13th Check
  - 1.5% Cost Of Living Adjustment on $50k
History of COLAs

- **Pre-1983**: COLAs were funded each biennium through the operating budget.
- **1983**: Creation of Special Account. Anything over .5% on the rate of return was used to fund COLAs determined by the House Finance committee.
- **2007-2012**: $820,000,000 removed from Special Account to suppress retirement rates for employers. Lawsuits.
- **2012**: Special Account was closed and removed from statute.
- **2018-2019**: 2018: HB1756 – 13th Check. 2019: HB616 – 1.5% COLA.
Advocating in New Hampshire

**Landscape**
- 400 House Members
  - Committees
  - Membership in House
  - Leadership
- 24 Senate Members
  - Targeted Districts
- Governor & Council
  - Board of Trustees
  - Appointments

**Advocacy**
- Relationships vs Party Politics
  - Who are our friends?
  - Who can we work with?
- Institutional Knowledge
  - Two-year terms / no term limits
- Plan For the Long Game
  - Current legislative session and beyond
- National Partners
  - Facts NOT rhetoric
Member Engagement

Decade Long Fight

Re-Engage and Connect

Call to Action

Testimony

Presence at State House

Economic Value

Retirement Security For All
NH Retirement Security Coalition

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Twitter: @nh_retirement