



# National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems

*The Voice for Public Pensions*

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Dear NCPERS member:

Despite criticisms from some quarters, most of it generated by a handful of news articles, we at NCPERS remain enthusiastic about holding our 2013 Annual Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii in May.

As an organization that represents virtually every substantial public employee pension fund in the U.S. – and many in Canada – NCPERS moves its annual conferences to different locations around the country, and Hawaii is very much a part of the United States.

- Our current President grew up there.
- Honolulu is as economical as it is beautiful. The cost of lodging and food is lower than in many places on the mainland, and airfares from anywhere in the U.S. are competitively priced. Our hotel rate alone is 44 percent below the cost of accommodations at our 2012 Annual Conference in New York. Those attending this year's conference can look forward to spending significantly less than they did last year.
- Beyond its well-known beaches, Hawaii has a fast-paced and contemporary business community. It is the gateway for trade between North America and Asia and has vibrant commercial and financial sectors. These are some of the reasons why scores of government entities, trade associations and other nonprofits have held their conferences in Honolulu in recent years. \*

Objecting to Honolulu because it has beautiful beaches – something you'll also find in popular convention cities in California and Florida – is like objecting to New York because it has Broadway and Times Square or objecting to New Orleans because it has jazz clubs and great food:

- Our convention hotel, the Hilton Hawaiian Village, is a premier conference site with superior meetings facilities supported by state-of-the-art technology.
- When NCPERS put this year's annual meeting out to bid back in 2006, Hilton came in with the best, most affordable offer. As a result, the overall cost for attending this year's conference presents a better cost-to-value ratio than many other major U.S. cities.

NCPERS' goal – in fact, its responsibility as the largest organization of its kind – is to ensure its annual conferences provide continuing education on timely topics to those who run public pension systems and opportunities for pension fund officials to meet, network and collaborate. This is particularly important at a time of economic uncertainty and a changing regulatory environment. We strive to accomplish that mission in a way that will be economical and cost-effective for our members. And we have done exactly that with our 2013 Annual Conference in Honolulu.



We look forward to seeing you there.

\* Some of the nonprofits that have staged conferences in Honolulu over the past couple of years include the Alzheimer's Association, American Association of Orthodontists, American Association of Veterinary State Boards, American Bar Association, American Board of Radiology, American College of Surgeons, American Geophysical Union, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, American Institutes for Research, American Medical Association, American School Counselor Association, American Society for Engineering Education, Armed Forces Communications & Electronics Association, Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, Association for Comparative Economic Studies, Association of Legal Administrators, Christian Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, Council for Exceptional Children, Council of Better Business Bureaus, Credit Union National Association Volunteer Institute, International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans, International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, Mechanical Contractor Association of Canada, Midwest Truckers Association, National Association of Fleet Tug Sailors, National Association of Legal Secretaries, National Conference of State Liquor Administrators, National Credit Union Managers Association, National Guard Executive Directors Association, National Kidney Foundation, National School Transportation Association, Navy League of the United States, NOAA, Association of Responsible Recyclers, Oklahoma Department of Libraries, Protestant Women of the Chapel, Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Society of Critical Care Medicine, University of Alaska, University of Alabama, University of California-SD, University of South Alabama, University of Tennessee.

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