



For Release: Wednesday, April 11, 2018

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**Protecting Pensions Is Pivotal to Excellence in Government:  
Statement of Hank H. Kim, NCPERS**

Washington, D.C. – The following is a statement by [Hank H. Kim](#), executive director and counsel of the [National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems](#), in response to a Center for State and Local Government Excellence issue brief, "[How Have Pension Cuts Affected Public Service Competitiveness?](#)"

“Excellence in government is built on a foundation of hiring talented and committed public servants. The steady erosion of public pension benefits is bound to have a negative impact on hiring, as the center’s study demonstrates. Americans cannot afford a scenario in which critical public safety and public service jobs go begging because governments made short-sighted decisions that cheapened the contributions of workers. Public pensions deserve our steady support.”

NCPERS regularly publishes [research](#) examining the economic and societal impact of public pensions. This research has underscored how public pensions provide economic benefits to communities and the economy at large, at little to no cost to taxpayers.

**About NCPERS**

The National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems (NCPERS) is the largest trade association for public sector pension funds, representing more than 500 funds throughout the United States and Canada. It is a unique non-profit network of public trustees, administrators, public officials and investment professionals who collectively manage more than \$3 trillion in pension assets. Founded in 1941, NCPERS is the principal trade association working to promote and protect pensions by focusing on [advocacy](#), [research](#), and [education](#) for the benefit of public sector pension stakeholders.

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