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The Voice for Public Pensions

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February 23, 2017

To the Editor:

George Will's doomsday scenario for public pensions is flawed because it extrapolates from the most extreme examples he could find. (["America's Utterly Predictable Tsunami of Pension Problems,"](#) February 22, 2017.)

The vast majority of public pensions are well funded and are gaining strength as the economy grows. The public pension plans in trouble today are typically the plans whose legislatures have failed to fund them, even in boom economic times.

In the case of Dallas, massive tax breaks for property tax abatements, tax increment financing, grants and loans to developers and corporations siphoned away significant resources. Instead of making good on the promises they had already extended to hard-working firefighters and policemen and women, politicians chose to enrich corporate America.

In communities where public pensions face funding challenges, participants, beneficiaries and trustees have agreed to pay more into pension funds and accepted benefit cuts to save money for taxpayers. They are committed to solutions, not blame-allocation.

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