

As a teacher in the Moniteau School District and one of your constituents, I am requesting your support for legislation that: increases the pension multiplier, reinstates the "30 and out" retirement window, equalizes employee contribution rates, increases the retiree medical supplement. Both state and school employees should receive pension increases. Thank you very much for all you do on behalf of the Commonwealth.

Very truly yours,



GUY TRAVAGLIO D
4 EAST WING
MAIN CAPITOL BUILDING
HARRISBURG, PA 17120



#4 SURVIVING SPOUSE BENEFITS

Dear Representative GUY A. TRAVAGLIO:

For the purpose of restoring fairness and equity to the State Employees' Retirement System I am asking you to support legislation which would provide:

1. a meaningful increase in SERS's retirement formula's multiplier;
2. a fair Cost-Of-Living-Adjustment (COLA) in pension payments for current retirees; and,
3. a permanent 30-years-and-out retirement option for all state employees.

Patrick T. Tucci

(sign your name)

PATRICK T. TUCCI

(print your name)

(your e-mail address [optional])



REPRESENTATIVE *Guy A. Travaglio*
PA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE BOX 202020
HARRISBURG PA 17120-2020



Travaglio, Guy

From: Carol Campbell [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, April 26, 2001 3:03 PM
To: Travaglio, Guy
Subject: Support 30 and Out legislation

Carol Campbell
[REDACTED]
Evans City, PA 16033

April 26, 2001

Representative Guy Travaglio
House Box 202020
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2020

Dear Representative Travaglio:

I am requesting your support for retirement legislation which continues the "30 & Out" retirement provision. The provision has been in effect since 1985.

For nearly 15 years, public school employees with 30 years of service had been able to retire without an early retirement penalty. In 1999, this opportunity ended.

I am seeking a restoration of this long-standing pension benefit. This is an elimination of the penalty - not an extra benefit such as the old 10 percent Mellow incentive.

This legislation is good for senior school employees and children.

Thirty years is a long time in any occupation. It is especially important in schools that those needing to retire - due to stress or burnout - have the ability to do so.

This legislation is good for young educators. Thousands of recently graduated education majors are seeking employment. This legislation will open jobs for some, saving districts money and improving the mix of experienced and young educators.

The retirement system can easily afford 30 & Out. The Public School Employee Retirement System, after decades of underfunding, is now overfunded by more than one billion dollars. This amount is growing daily. In 1985 the employer contribution rate was more than 20 percent of payroll. Today, the projected employer contribution rate is 1.9 percent for 2000-2001.

In contrast, our employee contributions have increased over time. All employees hired since July 1983 we contributed 6.25 percent of pay; prior to that the rate had been 5.25 percent. Today it is up to 5.72 percent.

Please support passage of "30 & Out" at the earliest opportunity. Please ask your leadership to move the bill to the floor for action.

Also, I respectfully ask that you please oppose any pension legislation which would increase the multiplier if it does not include school employees.

Finally, I also ask that you oppose any attempt to add unrelated legislation such as tuition vouchers or tuition tax credits. I oppose

*Sent
6-27*

the use of tax dollars for private school tuition and believe public funds should be invested in public education.

Thirty and Out deserves to be enacted on its own merit and because Pennsylvania's public school employees deserve no less. It should not be passed as part of any deal including vouchers or tuition tax credits.

Your help on this important legislation will be greatly appreciated.

I wish to say also that if a multiplier is introduced for government and state workers, that it should also be applied equally and equitably to teachers as well.

Though we have communicated about this and other issues in the past and you have assured me that you would certainly take my comments into consideration if and when these matters come to a vote, I want you to clearly understand that I respectfully consider it a vital part of your responsibility to do everything within your power to bring these issues to the floor to assure that they are voted on.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Carol Campbell

██████████
Butler, Pennsylvania 16001
May 8, 2001

Guy A. Travaglio
House Post Office
State Capitol
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

Dear Mr. Travaglio:

I am a teacher with the Karns City Area School District. I am concerned about the upcoming bill in the General Assembly concerning the formula used calculate retirement benefits.

I strongly urge you to include public school employees in any bill to increase the retirement formula for state workers.

I will be watching the results of this vote closely as it will personally affect me by controlling the amount of money that I will receive as a retired person. If I did not feel that teachers, as well as other public employees, deserve to be included in this bill, I would not take the time to write you.

Sincerely,



Janet L. Vensel

GUY A. TRAVAGLIO, MEMBER
HOUSE BOX 202020
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120-2020
PHONE: (717) 787-7686
FAX: (717) 783-3554

DISTRICT OFFICE:
138 EAST JEFFERSON STREET
BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA 16001
PHONE: (724) 283-5852
FAX: (724) 284-8253



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES:
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CHAIR ON TOWNSHIPS
TOURISM AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
POLICY
SOUTHWEST CAUCUS
NORTHWEST CAUCUS
VETERANS AFFAIRS

March 12, 2001

Carol Campbell

████████████████████
Evans City PA 16033

Dear Ms. Campbell:

Thank you very much for your letter regarding retirement eligibility for public school teachers and, specifically, "30 and out" legislation.

As a cosponsor of House Bill 100, I agree with you that the Commonwealth will save money if "30 and out" legislation is enacted. As you know, House Bill 100 entitles an individual to receive a maximum single life annuity without any reduction if they have 30 years of credited service as a teacher or state government employee. In addition to saving money that comes from our taxpayers, this legislation will allow the Commonwealth to benefit from the hard work of new employees while honoring those who have served the residents of Pennsylvania in a teaching capacity or through other service to the Commonwealth. This bill is currently under consideration by the House State Government Committee. If and when this bill comes before the full House for a vote, I will take your views under advisement.

Again, thank you for your letter. If I may be of further assistance to you on this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Guy A. Travaglio, Jr.".

GUY A. TRAVAGLIO, JR.
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
11th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

GAT:jg

GUY A. TRAVAGLIO, MEMBER
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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

April 25, 2001

COMMITTEES

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NORTHWEST CAUCUS
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Tammie Snyder
[REDACTED]
Butler PA 16001

Copy

Dear Ms Snyder:

Thank you for your letter regarding the retirement needs of public school employees. Your thoughts and concerns are greatly appreciated.

In your correspondence, you mentioned several retirement issues. In relation to the "30 and out" window, I am a cosponsor of House Bills 100 and 420. These measures would entitle an individual to receive a maximum single life annuity without any reduction if they have 30 years of credited service as a teacher or state government employee. House Bills 100 and 420 are currently under consideration by the House State Government Committee.

Regarding an increase in the pension multiplier, House Bill 223 would increase the multiplier benefits on annual accrual rates for existing Class A state government members from 2 percent of their final average salary to 2.5 percent of their final average salary. In addition, employee contributions to the pension fund would increase from 5 percent to 6.25 percent. This legislation would increase these benefits for state government employees, and although it would not specifically cover all school employees, it would cover public school employees who are members of the Public School Employees' Retirement System (PSERS). House Bill 223 is currently under consideration by the House State Government Committee.

On the issue of equalizing employee contributions, House Bill 8, of which I am also a cosponsor, would decrease current PSERS members' contribution rates from 6.25 percent to 5.25 percent. This legislation has been considered by the House Education Committee and awaits further consideration by the full House of Representatives.

Regarding an increase in the retiree medical supplement, I am the prime sponsor of a bill that addresses this issue. Under House Bill 1224, the health insurance premium assistance for eligible PSERS annuitants would increase from \$55 per month to \$162 per month. This legislation is currently under consideration by the House Education Committee.

The years of dedication and hard work that retired teachers have given to the Commonwealth are truly commendable. Thus, the well-being and quality of life for Pennsylvania's retired teachers are of utmost importance to me.

Please know that I will keep your thoughts and concerns in mind if any of the aforementioned bills are brought to the House for a final vote. If I may be of further assistance to you on this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Guy A. Travaglio, Jr." The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

GUY A. TRAVAGLIO, JR.
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
11th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

GAT:jg

GUY A. TRAVAGLIO, MEMBER
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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
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NORTHWEST CAUCUS
VETERANS AFFAIRS

April 17, 2001

Angela Hawley

[REDACTED]
Butler, PA 16001

Dear Ms. Hawley:

Thank you for your recent communication concerning early retirement legislation for public school employees commonly known as "30 and Out." As one who believes that 30 years of service deserves the full fruits of retirement benefits, please be assured that I support the concept of "30 and Out" and will give such legislation my utmost consideration when it is before the House of Representatives for a vote.

As you may know, the House Education Committee recently approved legislation sponsored by Rep. Colafella that would create a permanent "30 and Out" retirement option for all public school employees. Rep. Colafella, Democratic Chairman of the Committee, said the measure (an amendment to House Bill 8) would allow teachers to plan for their retirement with greater certainty and allow school districts to better plan for the replacement of teachers.

House Bill 8, of which I am a cosponsor, would also reduce a school employee's retirement fund contribution by one percent, as well as increase health insurance premium assistance for eligible PSERS annuitants from \$55 a month to \$150 a month or the actual monthly premium, whichever is less. The measure is now before the full House of Representatives awaiting further consideration.

Again, thank you for your input. Please be assured that, as the issue of "30 and Out" gains clarity in the days and weeks ahead, I will remain mindful of your concerns relating to any such enabling legislation. If I may be of further assistance with this, or any other issue, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Guy A. Travaglio, Jr.".

GUY A. TRAVAGLIO, JR.
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
11th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT

GAT:jg

Travaglio, Guy

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 20, 2001 6:21 PM
To: Travaglio, Guy
Subject: PSERS

FROM:

NAME: Frederick Crawford
ADDRESS: [REDACTED]
Butler, PA 16001

To Representative Travaglio:

Dear Guy,

You probably don't know me, but I've been a friend of your brother Vince for years. I've lived in Butler for only 33 years, but I've been a teacher here for the last 31 years. I was getting set to retire when Our Governor pulled the rug out from under me, and has forced me to remain working for 35 years minimum!

I can't tell you how much this has distressed me! I've sent you e-mails in the past to support 30-and-out legislation; I'm urging you to push even harder to get this reinstated!!!

Another issue is what I've been hearing about an increase in the multiplier--from the current 2% to sometime more equitable like 2.5%(typical military pension). The only thing that disturbs me here is that it seems this multiplier will only affect "other" state employees and not the teachers. Again, I am urging you to push for this increase in the multiplier so that it will include all PSERS members!

Thank you for your continued support.

A fellow Butlerite and
faithful voter,
Frederick L Crawford