



**Survey of Candidates for Elective Office  
Regarding the Public Employees Retirement System of Mississippi  
January 2017**

The Mississippi Retired Public Employee Association (MRPEA) represents approximately 142,635 active members and over 99,483 retirees and beneficiaries of the Public Employees Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS). As a candidate for the PERS Board Retiree Representative this year, we are providing you with an opportunity to respond to this brief survey. Please scan your signed and completed survey to the attention of Becky Cade at [cade.consulting@att.net](mailto:cade.consulting@att.net). If you prefer to fax, please fax it to 1-601-510-9259. **MRPEA may distribute the results of the survey to its members and other interested parties without restriction.**

With the creation of the Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS) in 1952, the Mississippi Legislature made a promise to its public service employees to provide them with basic financial retirement protection for life. In exchange, employees were mandated to pay into the retirement system in good faith with the expectation that the State would meet its promise to help fund those benefits.

Please circle your response(s) to each question:

1. Do you support philosophically Defined Benefit Retirement Systems?

Yes       No

2. If elected to office, will you support the State maintaining the current retirement system benefits including the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA)?

Yes       No

3. Do you believe that benefits should ever be reduced for:

Existing retirees?                      Yes                       No

Current employees?                      Yes                       No

Future employees?                      Yes                       Not necessarily - would depend upon employee and employer contribution rates and future financial projections.

4. As a member of the PERS Board will you support adjusting employer contribution rates in accordance with the recommendation of the actuary and state law should that become necessary in the future to maintain the fiscal solvency of the system?

Yes                      No

5. Do you support maintaining the existing structure of the PERS Board?

Yes                      No

Please offer any additional comments below:

It is important that PERS maintains a strong Board of Trustees that gives voice to and acts prudently for its members, both now and in the future.

Thank you for your interest in PERS, MRPEA and the dedicated Mississippi public servants that it represents. Please print and sign your name in the space provided.

Janet L. King (Name)

Janet King (Signature)