## **NOTE:** Items in parenthesis are individualized

# PENSIONS MATTER

## District (#) State Senator (name is here)

**Springfield Office:** 

Senator (?)th District M(???) Capitol Building Springfield, IL 62706 (217) 782-(????) (217) 782-(????) FAX

#### **District Office:**

Local office address (YourCity), IL (Zip) (local phone) (local fax)

#### **Total CTPF Members in District**

## (how many)

CTPF Active/Inactive Members in District

## (how many)

**CTPF Retirees in District** 

## (how many)

CTPF Annual Pension Dollars Paid to Constituents in District

## \$(how much)

Economic Impact of CTPF Pension Benefit Payments in District

## \$(how much)

Jobs Resulting from CTPF benefits

### (how many)

## My Pension Matters

CTPF MEMBER'S NAME

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE



E-MAIL

# **CTPF Pension FUNDamentals**

Information every legislator should know about CTPF pensions.

#### 1. CTPF educators pay for their pensions with every paycheck.

My pension is deferred compensation, earned with contributions from each payroll check. CTPF educators contribute 9% of salary from each paycheck and we have never missed a pension payment.

# 2. CTPF educators do not receive Social Security benefits and must pay for health insurance when they retire.

We do not contribute to or receive Social Security retirement benefits when we retire. A pension is our primary form of retirement security. CTPF educators must pay for health insurance when we retire, and many of us do not receive full Medicare benefits.

## 3. Funding problems, not overly generous benefits have stressed the pension system.

CTPF's funded ratio was nearly 100% in 2002, but has fallen to 59.7% because of "Pension Holidays" by our employer and a lack of support from the State of Illinois. Legislation passed in 1995 allowed the Board of Education to skip pension payments for a decade, and cost CTPF \$2 billion. PA 96-0889, passed in 2010, reduced payments to CTPF by \$1.2 billion for a three-year period, and will ultimately cost tax payers \$12 billion.

#### 4. Pensions create a positive impact on the Illinois economy.

More than 90% of CTPF's retired members live in the State of Illinois, and about 50% live in the City of Chicago. CTPF retirees spend their pensions close to home benefitting our state and local economies. Every \$1 in pension benefits paid out to retirees returns \$1.46 in economic activity to our state. Benefit payments and the ripple effect they achieve, help to create 11,066 jobs in the State of Illinois – 5,750 in Chicago alone.

#### 5. The State of Illinois has failed to keep its promise to Chicago's educators. Despite promises made to fund CTPF nearly 20 years ago, state funding for CTPF

has fallen steadily since 1995. For every \$1 invested in downstate/suburban pensions, CTPF receives less than a penny.

CTPF educators deserve guaranteed funding from our employer and fair funding from the State of Illinois.

CTPF Education and Advocacy Initiative

CTPF

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