



Maryland Retired School Personnel Association

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House Bill 0892
In Support Of
State Prescription Drug Benefits – Retirees
Appropriations Committee
Hearing: March 15, 2022, 1:00 p.m.

Dear Honorable Delegate Maggie MacIntosh, Chair, and Honorable Delegate Mark Chang, Vice Chair, and distinguished Appropriations Committee members,

The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association supports HB 0892 State Prescription Drug Benefits – Retirees. We urge a favorable report.

HB 0892 aims to right a wrong. It will enable current and some future state employee retirees to keep their promised prescription drug benefit in retirement even after they turn 65 years of age. It is only right that retirees maintain the benefits they were promised over the course of their state service. The rug should not be pulled from under them at any time, but especially not as they turn 65, just as they may start to need the benefit more.

Additionally, this bill will allow active state employees who were hired after a certain date to move to the Medicare prescription drug plan when they turn 65. This is acceptable only because these employees knew this when they were hired.

As an organization of retired state and local government personnel, we know that maintaining their pension and duly earned health benefits in retirement are the top two reasons people choose to work in these government positions. They greatly enjoy and are proud of serving the public and they know that their service will be recognized in retirement with these all-important benefits. The state government must hold up its end of the deal.

On behalf of the 13,000 members of the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association, we strongly urge support for HB 0892.

Sincerely,

George D. Denny, Jr.
President

Virginia G. Crespo
Legislative Aide