

Talking points when meeting with your local legislative candidates

1. Name _____
2. Candidate for what office? (circle) Representative / Senator
3. Party Affiliation (circle) Democrat / Republican
4. Current occupation _____
5. Current employer _____
6. Are you currently, or have you ever been, a member of a labor organization? Yes / No
7. If yes, which labor organization(s)? _____
8. Your campaign email address - to reach you _____
9. Phones Home _____ Cell _____
10. Website _____
11. Facebook page _____
12. Are you, or is a family member, retired or active in law enforcement or as a firefighter?
(circle) Yes / No
13. The Legislature is having difficulty balancing the State budget. Would you support reducing any kind of retirement benefit or making changes to existing pensions or retirement benefits? (circle) Yes / No
14. Over the years, the State Legislature has failed to make payments into State retirement pension plans. How would you address this problem?

15. The Teachers Retirement System, plan 1 (TRS 1) has a significant deficit, and is funded at only 69% of its actuarial obligations. How would you address this shortfall?

16. SB 6668 in the 2016 Regular Session -- the Washington State Senate attempted to merge the LEOFF 1 retirement plan (retired law enforcement officers and firefighters) and their assets 127% funded among 8,000 members with the Teachers Retirement System plan 1 (TRS 1), which covers 35,000 members, 1,000 still working, and is 69% funded. Would you support or oppose such a merger plan, and why?

17. Please describe your familiarity with Washington pension law, particularly the 1958 Bakenhus Decision.

18. If you do not know about the Bakenhus decision, would you like more information about it?
(circle) Yes / No

19. Would you support a bill that would take money from pensions to balance the budget?
(circle) Yes / No

20. Do you support the actuary-recommended State contribution to pensions?
(circle) Yes / No

21. Do you have a pension? If so, what pension plan?
(circle) Yes / No
