

NM LEGISLATIVE SESSION BEGINS TUESDAY

From the UNM Retiree Association Legislative Committee:

Next week begins the 56th Session of the sixty-day Legislative session. The session opens Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at noon. For the first time in many years, the UNM Retiree Association Legislative Committee is not aware of any bills that could have an effect on your ERB pension or COLA. The Educational Retirement Board is not recommending any legislation that affects active employee or retiree benefits. You can count on your UNM Retiree Association to alert you if anything changes.

Ahead of the session, legislators can pre-file legislation from January 3rd through January 13th prior to the opening session. Pre-filed legislation by the House Representatives has numbers assigned to them and you can view them at the legislature's website, nmlegis.gov

Pre-filed legislation for the state senators is not assigned a bill number until the session begins, January 17. You can view the Senate legislation listed in an index form that is updated daily.

Committee testimonies can be done via zoom. We have not heard if session and committee hearings can still be watched by the public via webcast. If you are planning on going to the Roundhouse to visit a legislator or attend a session in the House or Senate, it is now open to the public. Please follow COVID-19 guidelines to ensure your safety.

Please stay tuned for future updates!

IT IS UP TO ALL OF US, RETIREES AND THOSE STILL WORKING, TO PROTECT OUR BENEFITS!!! WHAT CAN YOU DO??

- Track the bill – State bill finder site - https://nmlegis.gov/Legislation/Bill_Finder
- Sign up with UNM Government and Community Relations to receive bill updates and alerts – <https://govrel.unm.edu/updates/index.html>.
- UNM 2023 Legislative Priorities -
- <https://govrel.unm.edu/.../2022-legislative-priorities3.pdf>
- Know your state senator and representative contact information before you really need it - Find your legislator by address - https://www.nmlegis.gov/Members/Find_By_Address
- Write, call, or tweet legislators and ask them to protect your pension and the COLA - CAPITOL SWITCHBOARD - (505-986-4300) & [#nmlegis](https://twitter.com/nmlegis)

2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDAR:

- Monday, January 3 – Friday, January 13 - Legislation may be pre-filed.
- Tuesday, January 17 - Opening day (noon)
- Thursday, February 16 - Deadline for introduction (Note: a legislation, dummy bill can be introduced at any time.)
- Saturday, March 18 - Session ends (noon)
- Friday, April 7 - Legislation not acted upon by the governor is pocket vetoed.
- Friday, June 16 - The effective date of legislation, not a general appropriation bill or a bill carrying an emergency clause or other specified date.

Thank you to our very dedicated Legislative Committee for working for us as well as helping us know how to contact critical legislators on important issues.

https://www.nmlegis.gov/Members/Find_By_Address