

From the UNM Retiree Association Legislative Committee:

The 56th Second Session of the thirty-day Legislative session opens Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at noon. 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 2nd through January 12th 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](https://www.nmlegis.gov)

House Memorial 1, Study Pension Benefits Structures, sponsored by Representative Joy Garrett, was pre-filed on January 8, 2024.

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/.../24.../memorials/house/HM001.pdf>

“REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON EQUALIZING THE PENSION BENEFIT STRUCTURES OF THE EDUCATIONAL RETIREMENT BOARD AND THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE INTERIM COMMITTEE THAT STUDIES INVESTMENTS AND PENSIONS AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO BUREAU OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH.”

House Memorial 1 PDF.

Pre-filed legislation for the state senators is not assigned a bill number until the session begins, January 16. You can view the Senate legislation listed in an index form that is updated daily.

The UNM Retiree Association is following House Memorial 1 (HM 1). A bill number will be assigned on the Senate side next week.

Committee testimonies can be done via zoom. You can watch session and committee hearings 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, please follow all Roundhouse guidelines.

According to the Albuquerque Journal article, Friday, January 5, 2024, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham is recommending a \$10.5 billion budget for this year, which is a 9.9% increase from last year. Public education will see a 7% budget increase and is tagged as the largest portion of the proposed budget at \$4.5 billion. The budget includes a 3% raise for teachers and state employees, plus state police officers would see a 7% increase in their

paychecks. A third of the state revenues would remain in reserve to cover any future shortfalls.

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's and representative's 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 - CAPITOL SWITCHBOARD - (505-986-4300) & [#nmlegis](#)

2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDAR:

- Tuesday, January 2 – Friday, January 12 - Legislation may be pre-filed.
- Tuesday, January 16 - Opening day (noon)
- Wednesday, January 31 - Deadline for introduction (Note: Legislation filed as a dummy bill can be introduced at any time.)
- Thursday, February 15 - Session ends (noon)
- Wednesday, March 6 - Legislation not acted upon by governor is pocket vetoed.
- Wednesday, May 15 - The effective date of legislation, not a general appropriation bill or a bill carrying an emergency clause or other specified date.

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