



**WHAT CAN YOU DO AS A UNM RETIREE ASSOCIATION MEMBER?  
ADVOCATE FOR EDUCATIONAL RETIREMENT ACT HB 46 – 2020 LEGISLATIVE  
SESSION**

**UNM RA, LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE TRAINING SESSION**

- I. New Mexico 2020 Legislative Session:**
  - a) 30-day, Tuesday, January 21 – Thursday, February 20 at Noon
- II. UNM RA DAYS AT THE LEGISLATURE:**
  - a) American Federation of Teachers, New Mexico Retirees (AFT) – **TBA**. A day will be selected to join forces with AFT New Mexico Retirees – to be determined. They have been asked to go to the House or Senate floor before – we could join them.
  - b) UNM Day at the Roundhouse – **TBA**. Join other LOBOs to meet with legislators and other state leaders. **(We need to contact ASUNM and UNM Office of Government and Community Relations – Connie Beimer)**
- III. Structure for days at the Capitol**
  - a) There will be teams, 1 team leader and at least 2 – 3 members per team
  - b) We will need at least 8 members at each scheduled date and 4 team leaders.
  - c) You will meet your team leader at the East lobby entrance of the Round House – **Time TBA**
  - d) Go with your team leader to the 1-2 meetings scheduled
  - e) The AFT days may require us to be guests on the House or Senate floor.
- IV. Legislature attendance**
  - a) Dress professionally – Think about accenting your attire with black, gray/silver and red.
  - b) Stick to the talking points included in your strategy packet. **(ERB Stakeholders' Sheets)**
  - c) Be at your appointments early.
- V. Strategy Packet**

- a) UNM RA business cards – you will need to write your contact information on the back
- b) Meeting time and Information about the legislator you will meet with (**form provided**)
- c) Talking points sheet – short statements with supporting documentation (**ERB Stakeholders' Sheets**)

**VI. Talking Points**

- a) Support the ERB HB 46 legislation (eliminating or suspension of the COLA is not included in these proposals.)
- b) Your group's point of view (**a 1-3-minute script or fact sheet - only on one issue. There are 12 ERB sheets. Be clear in your language. Ask your legislator to support HB 46 at each meeting.**)

**VII. Meeting with your legislator:**

- a) Teams need to be early for appointment. The receptionists will assist in getting you in to the meeting. You may have special instructions to go to the House or Senate floor. Check in with the Sgt. at Arms and meet with your legislator there.
- b) Always be polite and gracious to everyone you encounter, receptionists especially.
- c) Learn about the legislator you are meeting with before the meeting.
- d) You are there on behalf of UNM Retiree Association and the issue of ERB pension and COLA. Please do not discuss other bills.
- e) At the beginning of the meeting, stay conversational before moving to your talking points. Discuss what you did at UNM and what you are doing now as a UNM retiree. Keep it positive.
- f) End the meeting with thanking them for their service to New Mexico and with the hope that they will support the 2019 ERB Retirement Act Bill, educators and retired educators.
- g) Once home, follow up by sending them a thank you email with the issue restated again.

**VIII. Other Session Work – What you can do:**

- a) Telephone calls & emails to legislators
- b) Asking for friends' and family members' help
- c) Writing letters to legislators and press
- d) Testifying at committee meetings

## Talking points

### NMERB Legislative Proposal- 2020

#### House Bill 46 – Sponsor Rep. Tomas Salazar

##### WHAT THE BILL DOES:

##### In 2020:

- A transfer from General Fund to ERB trust fund - **\$50 million**
- Plus--transfer from General Fund to ERB an amount equal to a 1% employer contribution increase- **\$31 million**

##### After 2020:

Distributions from Gross Receipts Tax to ERB trust fund:

- In **2021** the amount equal to a 2% increase in employer contribution- **\$62 million**
- In **2022** a transfer from Gross Receipts Tax to ERB trust fund - **\$50 million**
- Also, in **2022 and thereafter** - an amount equal to a **\$31 million x 1% = 3%** increase in employer contribution - **\$93 million**

##### WHY:

**We need to strive to be 100% funded as soon as possible. (UNM RA's opinion - There is conflicting necessity for 100% funding, but at least this gets the state to do its share!)**

- Being 100% funded benefits all NMERB's stakeholders: students, members, retirees, employers, taxpayers and the state.
- NMERB is currently 62.9% funded and unfunded liabilities are \$7.9 billion.
- The unfunded liability hurts the state's, schools', colleges' and universities' credit ratings.

**Without these changes NMERB will be 100% funded in 47 years, but WITH these changes full funding will take only 30 years.**

**NMERB's retirees, and current and future members have largely shouldered the burdens of pension reform in 2010, 2013 and 2019- it's time for the state to do its share.**

<https://nmlegis.gov/Legislation/Legislation?Chamber=H&LegType=B&LegNo=46&year=20>