

Colorado

The legislature passed and Governor Polis signed HB1217, eliminating the phased-in 2% increase in member contributions to PERA for local government employees. The increase was triggered by SB200, which was enacted last year.

Kansas

During the legislative session, Governor Kelly signed SB9, which paid back \$115 million borrowed from KPERS by the legislature in previous years. The legislature also overrode the governor's veto of an extra \$51 million payment to KPERS.

Kentucky

Governor Bevin called a special session which lasted from July 19 to July 24. During the special session, the legislature passed and the governor signed HB1, Bevin's anti-pension bill. HB1 incentivizes quasi-government agencies to leave KRS by offering those agencies who sever from KRS a rate freeze, while those that remain in the system will continue to face budgetary pressure.

Louisiana

With a \$308 million surplus from last fiscal year and an additional \$110 million this year, lawmakers decided to use \$30.8 million to pay down some of the unfunded liability of TRS and LASERS. HB 20, which reconfigures how contributions work for employees who withdraw from service in the school employee retirement system, was passed and signed into law. HB 21, which made changes to the actuarial funding method for the firefighters' system, was passed and signed into law. HB 28, which would have changed all pension systems to hybrid retirement plans, was killed.

New Hampshire

The New Hampshire legislature passed HB 616, which provides any retiree who has been retired for 60 months prior to or on July 1, 2019 with a cost-of-living adjustment of 1.5% for the first \$50,000 or less that a retiree collects.

Oklahoma

HB 2304 passed the House 98-3 in March. The bill provided a 4% COLA for retired public employees who have not received one in over a decade. The Senate sent the bill out for an actuarial analysis on a 2% COLA. The House responded with their own analysis of a 4% COLA. Both analyses are expected in December 2019.

Oregon

SB 1049 was passed by the legislature and signed by Governor Brown. The bill reduces employee retirement benefits by redirecting a portion of employee contributions from their Individual Account Program (IAP) to pay down PERS's unfunded liability.

Texas

Despite changes to the discount rate by pension opponents last summer, this year's legislative session saw no significant attack on retirement security for Texas public employees. The House and Senate passed their budget, which included \$6.5B in additional education funding. State funding will return the teacher pension system to actuarially sound condition, ensuring better long-term health. The negotiated terms also enable a supplemental payment—or "13th check"—for retired teachers up to \$2,000. This would nearly match an average monthly pension payment.

Wyoming

HB314, a bill that would have provided Wyoming retirees with a "13th check" for the next two years, was defeated in the House.

To learn more about NPPC's state coalitions and their work, please contact Andrew Collier at acollier@protectpensions.org.