

IMPROVING
LIFE
FOR
OFFICERS
&
PEOPLE



LEGISLATIVE ALERT

PROPOSED PENSION LEGISLATION WILL BE VOTED ON TOMORROW!

Law enforcement officers and other public employees are in danger of losing the pensions they have contributed to throughout their years of service. Instead of working toward real reform, politicians are shifting the blame to them – the middle class men and women that work to keep our state safe, teach our children, and provide all other essential services that keep our communities functioning and secure.

[SB 512](#) would force current employees to pay more into the current pension system or switch their retirement plan to a 401k. This would not only add considerable economic burdens to workers, but would ultimately threaten the stability of current pension systems. This bill already affects many FOP brothers and sisters, and could ultimately obliterate pensions as they are now known.

[HJR 45](#) takes away the ability of state employees to collectively bargain for wage increases and staffing levels.

Law enforcement professionals have kept their promises. They have made their pension contributions, kept homes, streets, businesses, children and families safe, making sure Illinoisans are able to live without fear. They have managed environmental hazards and provided medical emergency care. They risk their personal safety every day in order to ensure safety for others. In return, they ask for their elected officials to keep the promise that was made to them at their beginning of their employment. Policymakers must fund public sector pensions like they promised and stop trying to reduce them in the name of "reform." Keeping this promise may seem risky or difficult, but imagine how risky it is for police officers to keep theirs.

Illinois Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) legislative staff—as well as staff from other organizations involved with the We Are One Campaign—have repeatedly met with lawmakers on the subject of pension reform. Thus far, the coalition has been successful at stopping pension reform due to the responsiveness of the FOP membership whose efforts, participation, phone calls and e-mails have been integral to the success of the We Are One Campaign.

The State Lodge urges its members to NOT LOSE MOMENTUM! The final week of the fall veto session is just days away and the collective voices must continue to be heard. You can help tell the truth about public pensions. Your voice matters.

Please continue to help the [WeAreOnellinois](#) Campaign protect the pensions of hardworking, middle class Illinoisans. Please join us now to protect the life savings public workers pay into and earn!

Contact Your Legislators

- Dial (888) 412-6570 and follow the prompts. You will be connected with your state senator or representative.
- **OR [send this e-mail](#)** to your Representative and Senator.
- Tell them to do the right thing:

Say NO cutting the modest pensions earned by public employees who keep us safe, educate our children, care for the sick and disabled and more.

**PLEASE DO NOT WAIT.
CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS RIGHT NOW.
PLEASE ASK YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO DO THE SAME.**