

February 5, 2015

The Honorable Kevin Brady 301 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Brady:

On behalf of the board, and the 480,000 active members and retirees of the State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio, I am pleased to share with you our support of HR 711, the Equal Treatment for Public Servants Act.

The State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio was established in 1920, well before Social Security; so, our members do not contribute to Social Security during their public employment. For more than 30 years, these employees have been subjected to the arbitrary manner in which the Windfall Elimination Provision is applied against any earnings they may have with Social Security. We applaud your efforts to devise a formula that takes into account everyone's contributions to Social Security and their work history.

Furthermore, we strongly support this legislation and the fair treatment it promotes, both for those who have contributed to Social Security and to a state system such as STRS Ohio, as well as those who may have contributed solely to Social Security. We would not want our members hurt by a one-size-fits-all approach, and we believe HR 711 is truly fair to all involved.

Thank you for your efforts and we look forward to working with you to ensure the enactment of the Equal Treatment for Public Servants Act.

Sincerely,

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