

ALABAMA RETIRED STATE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION
ALABAMA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' ADVOCACY LEAGUE

Advantage

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2023 | VOLUME XIX, ISSUE I



Issues and Benefits District Meetings • Legislative Day

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FEBRUARY/MARCH 2023

4 Issues & Benefits District Meetings Coming

6 Taxes on RSA Benefits

7 2023 Legislative Roster

12 Christmas Open House and Foundation Silent Auction

13 Seeking Board Member Nominations

15 2022 Part D Surcharge Reimbursement for State Medicare Retirees



Advantage Magazine is the official publication of ARSEA/APEAL and is published bi-monthly by the association. The Association office is located at 450 S. Union Street, Montgomery, AL 36104. Telephone (334) 834.9116 or (800) 844.7732. Locate us on the web at www.arsea.org. Any questions concerning this publication or the association can be directed to our office by calling the numbers above or emailing us at retire@arsea.org. Advertisements in the magazine are not endorsements of products and/or services by ARSEA/APEAL unless officially stated in the ad. We shall accept advertising on the same basis as other reputable publications: that is, we shall not knowingly permit a dishonest advertisement to appear in Advantage, but, at the same time, we will not undertake to guarantee the reliability of our advertisers.



FROM THE DIRECTOR

As this issue of the ARSEA Advantage goes to press, the Alabama Legislature has held its organizational session, elected its leadership

for the 2022 - 2026 quadrennium, and is actively preparing for the 2023 regular session that begins on March 7.

At the same time the Legislature is making its preparations, ARSEA/APEAL is planning and coordinating the lobbying efforts we will undertake when lawmakers gather in Montgomery and begin their work.

Our top legislative priority will be the passage of our responsible and affordable plan that allows the state to return to annual COLA-style retiree increases without inflating the Retirement System's unfunded liabilities. Passing our plan through the Legislature will require us to educate lawmakers about its details and convince them of its soundness, both of which we are committed to accomplishing.

We will also work to pass a "Catch-up" bonus bill to provide the local governments that did **not** fund the retiree bonus last year another opportunity to fund one this year. We believe several of the cities and counties that declined to participate have the funding available, so passing a "Catch-up" measure will allow us to also focus our efforts on them.

As always ARSEA/APEAL will work to ensure that the Legislature continues its pattern of fully funding the actuarial request of the Retirement Systems of Alabama. Every year we make sure legislators understand the importance of this funding obligation to the members of RSA.

We will also push for the increased funding request for the State Employees' Health Insurance Program. Due to the shortage of state employees, the SEIB's budget request for the coming fiscal year has increased following several years of level funding.

To promote our legislative agenda, we will soon begin our annual series of district meetings held in each of our 20 districts, and we encourage you to make plans to attend. We will discuss the most current information about the Legislature's actions and how you can influence them.

In the meantime, please reach out to others you know and encourage them to join our association. Your endorsement of ARSEA/APEAL can do more to attract new members than any recruitment letters we can write. Remind them that last year's bonus was made possible solely through the efforts and influence of ARSEA/APEAL and invite them to an upcoming meeting so they can learn more about the important work we do on behalf of current and future state and local government retirees.

To promote our legislative agenda, we will soon begin our annual series of Issues and Benefits District meetings held in each of our 20 districts, and we encourage you to make plans to attend. We will discuss the most current information about the Legislature's actions and how you can influence them.

ISSUES & BENEFITS DISTRICT MEETINGS COMING *REGISTER TODAY!*

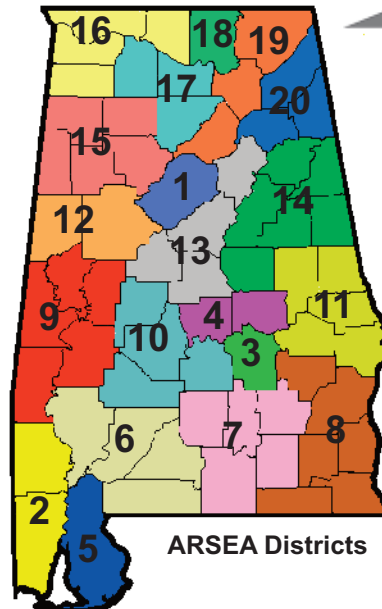


To receive the most up-to-date information about current issues affecting your retirement benefits, make plans to attend an upcoming District Meeting. The meetings, which are held in conjunction with the 2023 Legislative Session, will focus on any proposed legislation that could impact the Retirement Systems of Alabama (RSA) and your retirement benefits.

Members of the Alabama House and Senate will be invited to attend, as well as local elected officials. This provides an excellent opportunity to hear firsthand from your elected officials as we outline and discuss ARSEA/APEAL's plan to return to COLA-style annual increases in retirement benefits that do not adversely affect RSA's unfunded liability.

Representatives from RSA, SEIB, the local Area Agency on Aging, United Healthcare, AMBA and other groups have also been invited to each meeting to provide important information about the programs and services they offer.

There is NO cost to attend and meetings usually last about an hour. We allow 30 minutes before the meeting for attendee registration and one-on-one interactions with our staff, service providers, speakers and elected officials.



Please use the map to determine your district or identify the meeting location nearest you and make plans now to attend. We also encourage you to invite other current and future retirees in your area to participate and learn more about the many benefits of being a member of ARSEA/APEAL.

*Space is limited in some locations, so please RSVP as soon as possible. Complete and return the form below to
ARSEA/APEAL, 450 South Union Street, Montgomery, AL 36104
or email retire@arsea.org or call 334-834-9116 to confirm your attendance.*

Name: _____

Spouse/Guest: _____

Address: _____

City, St, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Guest's Name: _____

District Meeting you plan to attend: _____

_____ I am unable to attend. Please send me a district meeting election ballot.

2023 ISSUES AND BENEFITS DISTRICT MEETINGS

Registration for each meeting will begin 30 minutes before the scheduled meeting time. Please note meetings with district elections are marked with an asterisk * Attend a meeting near you. Refer to the map to view what area is included in each district.

District 7

Tuesday, February 14
1:30 p.m.

Coffee County Health Department
2841 Neal Metcalf Road, Enterprise

District 20

Tuesday, February 28
10:00 a.m.

Etowah County Courthouse – Room 205
800 Forrest Avenue, Gadsden

***District 14**

Monday, April 17
1:30 p.m.

Oxford Civic Center
401 McCullars Lane, Oxford

District 8

Thursday, February 16
1:30 p.m.

Eufaula Community Center
750 Lake Drive, Eufaula

District 2

Thursday, March 2
2:30 p.m.

West Regional Branch of the Mobile
Public Library
5555 Grelot Road, Mobile

***District 16**

Friday, April 21
10:30 a.m.

Muscle Shoals City Hall Auditorium
2010 Avalon Avenue, Muscle Shoals

District 12

Tuesday, February 21
1:30 p.m.

Focus at McAbee Center
3801 Loop Road, Tuscaloosa

District 5

Friday, March 3
10:00 a.m.

Foley Civic Center
407 E Laurel Avenue, Foley

***District 15**

Monday, April 24
1:30 p.m.

Jasper Civic Center – Activity Room
204 19th Street E, Jasper

District 9

Wednesday, February 22
10:00 a.m.

Rooster Hall
216 N Walnut Street, Demopolis

District 17

Tuesday, March 28
1:30 p.m.

Cullman City Hall - Auditorium
204 2nd Avenue NE, Cullman

***District 19**

Friday April 28
10:00 a.m.

Marshall County Health Department
150 Judy Smith Drive, Guntersville

District 10

Wednesday February 22
2:00 p.m.

Selma Dallas County Public Library
1103 Selma Avenue, Selma

District 18

Wednesday, March 29
10:00 a.m.

Redstone Federal Credit Union –
Patriot Room
220 Wynn Drive NW, Huntsville

***District 13**

Monday, May 1
1:30 p.m.

Alabaster Municipal Complex
Courtroom
1953 Municipal Parkway, Alabaster

District 11

Thursday, February 23
2:00 p.m.

Opelika Public Library –
Cooper Room
1100 Glenn Street, Opelika

District 6

Monday, April 3
1:30 p.m.

Evergreen Depot
100 Depot Square, Evergreen

***District 4**

Friday, May 5
10:30 a.m.

Central Alabama Electric
Cooperative
103 Jesse Samuel Hunt Blvd,
Prattville

District 1

Monday, February 27
1:30 p.m.

Gardendale Civic Center –
Garden Suite
857 Main Street, Gardendale

***District 3**

Friday, April 14
2:00 p.m.

Crump Senior Center
1751 Congressman W L Dickinson Dr,
Montgomery

TAXES ON RSA BENEFITS

Each tax season, ARSEA/APEAL seeks to serve our members by providing answers to some of the most asked questions about tax liability on retirement benefits and other related issues.

Are RSA retirement benefits subject to Alabama state income tax?

No. If you reside in Alabama, RSA retirement benefits are not subject to state of Alabama income tax. If you reside in another state, contact that state's revenue department to determine whether retirement benefits are taxable in that state or visit www.irs.gov.

Are RSA retirement benefits subject to federal income tax?

Yes. Generally, your retirement benefit is subject to federal income taxation. However, contributions to the RSA that were previously taxed and/or purchases of service credit with previously taxed funds are exempt from federal taxation.

If you do not have withholding applied to your monthly payments or do not have enough federal income tax withheld from such payments, you may be responsible for federal income tax payments. You may also incur penalties under the estimated tax rules if your withholdings and estimated tax payments are insufficient.

How do I change or revoke the federal tax amount withheld from my retirement?

You have the right to choose not to have federal income tax withheld from your monthly payments or to change your previous withholding election.

To change the amount of federal income tax withheld from your retirement benefit payments, you may submit a new Withholding Certificate. The form is available on RSA's website at www.rsa-al.gov, or you can log in to Member Online Services (MOS) and select the "Tax Information" section, which has an option to "Change Withholding." To request a form to be mailed to you, call 334-517-7000 or 877-517-0020, or write to RSA at P.O. Box 302150, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2150.

How will the taxable amount of my retirement benefit be reported to me?

In January, the RSA provides retirees Form 1099-R for use in filing an income tax return. The 1099-R reports the amount of retirement benefits subject to federal income tax. More information is available on RSA's website at www.rsa-al.gov. If you have not received your 1099-R form, please call 877-517-0020 to request a duplicate form.



If you still have questions, we suggest you consult your accredited tax professional or financial advisor. Also, many senior centers across the state host free tax preparation services specifically for seniors. For more information contact your local senior center or Area Agency on Aging at 1-800-243-5463 or visit www.alabamaageline.gov

2023 LEGISLATIVE ROSTER

In past years, we have asked that you keep the ARSEA/APEAL Legislative Roster readily available so when the time comes to contact lawmakers you can take quick action. But with the overwhelming number of new legislators this year, we are requesting that you take a somewhat different tactic.

There are 37 freshmen lawmakers in the 140-member Alabama Legislature, and many of the returning senators and representatives are just beginning their second terms. Only nine members of the Alabama House were elected before 2014 and 48 legislators have served one term or less. In short, there are a lot of new faces in the Alabama State House.

Rather than waiting until issues arise to call your House and Senate members, please use the accompanying roster to be more proactive and introduce yourself to them now. Become familiar with your legislators and create a relationship before the session even begins.

“Inviting your elected officials to attend your district meeting is an easy way to open the lines of communication,” ARSEA/APEAL President Mike Gillespie said. “Let them know about your state or local public service and make sure they understand the importance of your retirement benefits.”

The best way to stay informed about activities happening in the legislature and bills we are tracking is through our Weekly Update and Legislative Alert emails. If you are not currently receiving our Weekly Update, please call our office at 334-834-9116 or e-mail us at retire@arsea.org.

To contact the Statehouse:

Senate Information: 334-261-0800

House Information: 334-261-0500

To contact your Senator or House Member:

Senator/Representative Name

11 South Union Street

Montgomery, AL 36130-2950

To contact the Governor:

Governor Kay Ivey

600 Dexter Avenue

Montgomery, AL 36130

334-242-7100

ALABAMA STATE HOUSE

ALABAMA SENATE

Name	Dist.	State House	Email	Dist./Home	Counties
Greg Albritton - R	22	334-261-0483	galbritton@att.net	251-937-0240	Baldwin, Clarke, Escambia, Monroe, Washington
Gerald Allen - R	21	334-261-0889	gerald.allen@alsenate.gov	205-556-5310	Lamar, Pickens, Tuscaloosa
Will Barfoot - R	25	334-261-0895	will.barfoot@alsenate.gov	334-261-0895	Crenshaw, Elmore, Montgomery
Billy Beasley - D	28	334-261-0868	billy.beasley@alsenate.gov	334-775-7657	Barbour, Bullock, Henry, Houston, Macon
Lance Bell - R	11	334-261-0789	lance.bell@alsenate.gov	205-812-5322	Shelby, St. Clair, Talladega
Tom Butler - R	2	334-261-0884	senbutler@aol.com	256-539-5441	Madison, Limestone
Josh Carnley - R	31	334-261-0845	josh.carnley@alsenate.gov	334-726-1252	Coffee, Covington, Dale, Pike
Clyde Chambliss - R	30	334-261-0872	clyde.chambliss@alsenate.gov	334-242-7872	Autauga, Chilton, Coosa, Elmore, Tallapoosa
Donnie Chesteen - R	29	334-261-0879	donnie.chesteen@alsenate.gov	334-684-2196	Dale, Geneva, Houston
Merika Coleman - D	19	334-261-0793	merika.coleman@alsenate.gov	205-325-5308	Jefferson
Linda Coleman-Madison - D	20	334-261-0864	lcolemanmadison926@yahoo.com	205-798-1045	Jefferson
Chris Elliott - R	32	334-261-0897	chris.elliott@alsenate.gov	251-990-4610	Baldwin
Vivian Figures - D	33	334-261-0871	Vivian.figures@alsenate.gov	251-208-5480	Mobile
Sam Givhan - R	7	334-261-0867	sam.givhan@alsenate.gov	256-539-5441	Madison
Garlan Gudger - R	4	334-261-0855	garlan.gudger@alsenate.gov	334-261-0855	Cullman, Lawrence, Marion, Winston
Kirk Hatcher - D	26	334-261-9001	kirk.hatcher@alsenate.gov	334-450-8023	Montgomery
Jay Hovey - R	27	334-261-0865	jay.hovey@alsenate.gov	334-319-6654	Lee, Russell, Tallapoosa
Andrew Jones - R	10	334-261-0857	andrew.jones@alsenate.gov	334-261-0857	Cherokee, Dekalb, Etowah
Keith Kelley - R	12	334-261-0963	keith.kelley@alsenate.gov	256-452-4120	Calhoun, Talladega
Steve Livingston - R	8	334-261-0858	steve.livingston@alsenate.gov	256-609-6341	Dekalb, Jackson, Madison
Tim Melson - R	1	334-261-0773	tim.melson@alsenate.gov	256-539-5441	Lauderdale, Limestone, Madison
Arthur Orr - R	3	334-261-0758	Arthur.orr@alsenate.gov	256-260-2146	Limestone, Madison, Morgan
Randy Price - R	13	334-261-0874	randyprice.sd13@gmail.com	334-559-0483	Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Lee, Randolph
Greg Reed - R	5	334-261-0894	greg.reed@alsenate.gov	334-261-0894	Fayette, Jefferson, Tuscaloosa, Walker, Winston
Dan Roberts - R	15	334-261-0851	dan.roberts@alsenate.gov	334-261-0851	Jefferson, Shelby, Talladega
Clay Scofield - R	9	334-261-0876	clay.scofield@alsenate.gov	256-582-7049	Blount, Dekalb, Madison, Marshall
David Sessions - R	35	334-261-0882	d.r.sessions@att.net	251-208-5480	Mobile
Shay Shelnett - R	17	334-261-0794	shay.sd17@gmail.com	205-413-9022	Blount, Jefferson, St. Clair
Bobby Singleton - D	24	334-261-0335	bsingle362@gmail.com	334-242-7935	Choctaw, Greene, Hale, Marengo, Pickens, Sumter, Tuscaloosa
Rodger Smitherman - D	18	334-261-0870	rodger.smitherman@alsenate.gov	205-396-3213	Jefferson
Robert Stewart - D	23	334-261-0860	robert.stewart@alsenate.gov	334-505-9753	Dallas, Monroe, Perry, Wilcox
Larry Stutts - R	6	334-261-0862	larry.stutts@alsenate.gov	256-386-0855	Colbert, Franklin, Lawrence, Lauderdale, Marion
Jabo Waggoner - R	16	334-261-0892	jabo.waggoner@alsenate.gov	205-978-7405	Jefferson, Shelby
April Weaver - R	14	334-261-0886	april.weaver@alsenate.gov	205-620-6610	Bibb, Chilton, Shelby
Jack Williams - R	34	334-261-0829	jackwilliams55@icloud.com	251-331-1979	Mobile

ALABAMA HOUSE

Name	Dist.	State House	Email	Dist./Home	Counties
Cynthia Almond - R	63	334-261-0558	cynthia.almond@alhouse.gov	334-261-0558	Tuscaloosa
Alan Baker - R	66	334-261-0420	staterep@co.escambia.al.us	251-867-0244	Baldwin, Escambia
Russell Bedsole - R	49	334-261-0491	russell.bedsole@alhouse.gov	205-229-6021	Bibb, Chilton, Shelby
Chris Blackshear - R	80	334-261-0428	chris.blackshear@alhouse.gov	334-214-9825	Lee, Russell
Ron Bolton - R	61	334-261-0500	ronaldbolton1@gmail.com	205-242-9896	Pickens, Tuscaloosa
Barbara Boyd - D	32	334-261-0592	barbara.boyd@alhouse.gov	256-741-8683	Calhoun, Talladega
Napoleon Bracy - D	98	334-261-0556	napoleon@napoleonbracy.com	251-327-2794	Mobile
Chip Brown - R	105	334-261-0447	chip.brown@alhouse.gov	251-206-7075	Mobile
Mack Butler - R	28	334-261-0500	mack.butler@alhouse.gov	256-312-3128	Etowah
Jim Carns - R	48	334-261-0429	jwcarns@gmail.com	205-967-3571	Jefferson, Shelby
Prince Chestnut - D	67	334-261-0598	chestnut4house@gmail.com	334-874-2569	Dallas, Perry
Adline Clarke - D	97	334-261-0549	adline.clarke@alhouse.gov	251-377-9990	Mobile
Steve Clouse - R	93	334-261-0488	steve.clouse@alhouse.gov	334-774-7384	Dale, Houston
David Cole - R	10	334-261-0500	davidcoforalabama@gmail.com	256-850-4208	Madison
Terri Collins - R	8	334-261-0472	terri@terricollins.org	256-227-0360	Morgan
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Danny Crawford - R	5	334-261-0516	Danny.F.Crawford@gmail.com	256-871-1944	Limestone
Anthony Daniels - D	53	334-261-0522	anthony.daniels@alhouse.gov	256-539-5441	Madison
Barbara Drummond - D	103	334-261-0564	drummondbarbara@att.net	251-208-5481	Mobile
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Bob Fincher - R	37	334-261-0538	rsfincher77@gmail.com	256-449-6149	Chambers, Cleburne, Randolph
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Mark Gidley - R	29	334-261-0500	mark.gidley@alhouse.gov	256-504-3963	Calhoun, Etowah, Jackson
Juandalynn Givan - D	60	334-261-0584	juandalynn.givan@alhouse.gov	205-433-6132	Jefferson
Donna Givens - R	64	334-261-0500	donnagivens64@gmail.com	251-952-2210	Baldwin, Monroe
Jeremy Gray - D	83	334-261-9505	jeremy.gray@alhouse.gov	256-247-5059	Lee, Russell
Laura Hall - D	19	334-261-0517	annahall19@gmail.com	256-859-2234	Madison
Matthew Hammett - R	92	334-261-0500	matthew.hammett@alhouse.gov	334-496-3649	Coffee, Covington, Escambia
Corey Harbison - R	12	334-261-0578	corey_harbison@yahoo.com	256-640-2000	Cullman
Ben Harrison - R	2	334-261-0500	ben.harrison@alhouse.gov	256-614-9087	Lauderdale, Limestone
Ken Hassell - D	78	334-261-0506	ken.hassell@alhouse.gov	334-834-8494	Montgomery

ALABAMA HOUSE

Name	Dist.	State House	Email	Dist./Home	Counties
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Leigh Hulsey - R	15	334-261-0500	leigh.hulsey@alhouse.gov	205-451-2955	Jefferson, Shelby
Steve Hurst - R	35	334-261-0415	repstevehurst98@gmail.com	256-761-1935	Calhoun, Clay, Talladega
Reed Ingram - R	75	334-261-0507	reedingram75@gmail.com	334-242-7707	Elmore, Montgomery
Thomas Jackson - D	68	334-261-0437	thomas.jackson@alhouse.gov	334-636-8119	Clarke, Conecuh, Marengo, Monroe
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Mike Kirkland - R	23	334-261-0500	kirklandmike75@gmail.com	256-609-5558	Dekalb, Jackson
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Bill Lamb - R	62	334-261-0500	lambbama@gmail.com	205-361-5262	Tuscaloosa
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Marcus Paramore - R	89	334-261-0500	marcusforhouse@gmail.com	334-546-1242	Dale, Pike
Kenneth Paschal - R	73	334-261-0469	kenneth.paschal@alhouse.gov	205-626-9458	Shelby
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Fred Plump - D	55	334-261-0500	fredone6050@att.net	205-616-3309	Jefferson
Chris Pringle - R	101	334-261-0489	chris.pringle@alhouse.gov	251-341-1110	Mobile
Neil Rafferty - D	54	334-261-0543	reprafferty@gmail.com	256-539-5441	Jefferson
Rick Rehm - R	85	334-261-0500	rrehm46@gmail.com	334-797-7770	Henry, Houston
Rex Reynolds - R	21	334-261-0571	reynoldsdist21@gmail.com	256-539-5441	Madison
Phillip Rigsby - R	25	334-261-0500	reprigsbydistrict25@gmail.com	256-714-6376	Limestone, Madison
Ben Robbins - R	33	334-261-0477	ben.robbins@alhouse.gov	205-907-5091	Clay, Coosa, Talladega
Chad Robertson - R	40	334-261-0500	ChadrobertsonD40@gmail.com	256-201-1116	Calhoun
John Rogers - D	52	334-261-0387	johnrogers1424@gmail.com	205-925-3522	Jefferson
Patrick Sellers - D	57	334-261-0500	sellersfor57@yahoo.com	205-370-5370	Jefferson

Chris Sells - R	90	334-261-0568	csea@centurytel.net	334-371-9304	Butler, Coffee, Montgomery
Ginny Shaver - R	39	334-261-0413	ginny.shaver@alhouse.gov	256-490-2027	Calhoun, Cherokee, Cleburne, Dekalb
Mike Shaw - R	47	334-261-0500	mike.shaw@alabama47.com	205-541-6542	Jefferson
Randall Shedd - R	11	334-261-0530	randall.shedd@alhouse.gov	256-531-6641	Blount, Cullman, Marshall, Morgan
Mark Shirey - R	100	334-261-0500	mark.shirey@alhouse.gov	256-850-4208	Mobile
Matt Simpson - R	96	334-261-0424	MattSimpsonAL96@gmail.com	251-751-8535	Baldwin, Mobile
Van Smith - R	42	334-261-0459	vansmith53@gmail.com	334-261-0459	Autauga, Chilton
Jeff Sorrells - R	87	334-261-0542	jeffs@fnbhartford.com	205-620-6610	Geneva, Houston
Kyle South - R	16	334-261-0482	RepSouth16@gmail.com	205-932-4700	Fayette, Jefferson, Lamar, Tuscaloosa
Scott Stadthagen - R	9	334-261-0436	scott.stadthagen@alhouse.gov	205-543-0647	Cullman, Marshall, Morgan
David Standridge - R	34	334-261-0446	david.standridge@alhouse.gov	334-261-0446	Blount, Marshall
Jerry Starnes - R	88	334-261-0500	jerry.starnes@alhouse.gov	334-549-0782	Autauga, Elmore
Shane Stringer - R	102	334-261-0594	shane.stringer@alhouse.gov	251-401-5551	Mobile
Troy Stubbs - R	31	334-261-0500	troy.stubbs@hotmail.com	334-451-4589	Elmore
Ontario Tillman - D	56	334-261-0500	ojtillman@gmail.com	256-603-7794	Jefferson
Curtis Travis - D	72	334-261-0500	cltravis620@charter.net	205-349-9183	Bibb, Hale, Marengo, Perry
Allen Treadaway - R	51	334-261-0585	allen.treadaway@alhouse.gov	205-254-1700	Jefferson
Kerry Underwood - R	3	334-261-0500	kerryucpa@me.com	256-248-4891	Colbert, Lauderdale, Lawrence
Tim Wadsworth - R	14	334-261-0554	wadsworth.tim654321@gmail.com	205-300-4008	Jefferson, Walker, Winston
Pebblin Warren - D	82	334-261-0541	tiger9127@bellsouth.net	334-727-9127	Lee, Macon, Tallapoosa
Andy Whitt - R	6	334-261-0404	andy.whitt@alhouse.gov	256-874-8668	Limestone, Madison
Ritchie Whorton - R	22	334-261-0553	ritchiewhorton@gmail.com	256-218-3090	Jackson, Madison
Margie Wilcox - R	104	334-261-0577	margie.wilcox@alhouse.gov	251-476-7711	Mobile
Debbie Wood - R	38	334-261-0532	debbie.wood@alhouse.gov	334-768-7355	Chambers, Lee
Randy Wood - R	36	334-261-0552	strep36@gmail.com	256-239-9190	Calhoun, St. Clair, Talladega
Matt Woods - R	13	334-261-0495	matt.woods@alhouse.gov	205-275-1084	Blount, Walker
Ernie Yarbrough - R	7	334-261-0500	yarbrough4house@gmail.com	256-345-0970	Lawrence, Franklin, Winston



LEGISLATIVE DAY

Mark your Calendars for Tuesday, April 25th for ARSEA/APEAL Day at the Statehouse and Legislative Reception!

Our in-person advocacy event will be from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Statehouse. To make your one-on-one legislative visits more effective and to allow us to better coordinate meeting times around your schedule, please call 334-834-9116 or e-mail retire@arsea.org.

To cap off our day we will host a Legislative Reception at the RSA Plaza directly across from the Statehouse from 5 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Here, in a more relaxed setting, we can socialize with our elected officials and continue our discussions around current and future retiree needs and concerns.

More information about the two events will be included in future Weekly Email Updates and other communications.

Unsure who your Senator or Representative is or need additional contact information? Please visit www.legislature.state.al.us or call our office at 334-834-9116 or 800-844-7732 for assistance.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE AND FOUNDATION SILENT AUCTION

ARSEA/APEAL held its annual Christmas Open House and Foundation Silent Auction in December as association leaders and members, elected officials, and other friends and allies visited our offices to share some holiday cheer and support the charitable arm of our organization.

All proceeds raised from the Silent Auction directly support our efforts to provide financial assistance to important programs, projects and services benefiting Alabama's seniors. This year's auction raised more than \$5,000.

"We are deeply grateful to those who made donations and placed bids on each of the items," ARSEA Foundation President Gene Brown said. "Our members' contributions helped to make this year's fundraiser one of our best in several years."



Brenda Gantt donated one of her newest cookbooks to the auction. Pictured here with Vice President South Buck Lee



Representatives Jennifer Fidler and Donna Givens with Foundation Board Member Barbara Wheeler



President Mike Gillespie pictured with RSA Legislative Counsel Neah Scott, Representative Randall Shedd

ARSEA/APEAL extends a special "Thank you" to the following individuals and businesses who supported the Foundation in 2022:

Dr. Deborah Barnhart	Winkler Sims
Bubba Blue	Jeff Sparks
Gene Brown	Mike Sparks
Richard Cater	A. G. Sullivan
Bob Childree	Terri Summerlin
James Coman	Charles Thomas
Becky Cornelison	Barbara Wheeler
Cynthia Dillard	Auburn/Opelika Marriott Resort
Tony Dozier	Battle House Renaissance Mobile Hotel
Jim Fibbe	Bellingrath Gardens & Home
Jerry Fielding	Caribe Resort
Brenda Gantt	Grand Hotel Resort
Mike Gillespie	Huntsville/Madison County CVB
Johnny Grant	IP Casino Resort
Norris Green	Marriott Shoals Hotel & Spa
Peggy Harris	McWane Science Center
Ralph Hellmich	OWA Parks & Resort
Thera Herring	Priester's Pecans
Ella Jones	Renaissance Mobile
Boyd & Liane Kelly	Riverview Plaza Hotel
Bill & DuRhonda Lamb	Renaissance Ross Bridge
Buck Lee	Retirement Systems of Alabama
Ken & Mary Helen Mahan	Riverfront Facilities/City of Montgomery
Ken Mays	ServisFirst Bank
Robert McCollough	The Lodge at Gulf State Park
Anne McMillan	Wind Creek Wetumpka
Carolyn Middleton	
Betty Moore	
Sara Phillips	
Rex Reynolds	
Clyde Sellers	

If you are interested in supporting the ARSEA Foundation, information about how to get involved may be found on our website.

THE
Foundation



ERS Board of Control member Norris Green (left) pictured with Executive Director Liane Kelly and ARSEA Foundation President Gene Brown



ARSEA Foundation Board Member Peggy Harris(right) pictured with Glenda Harrison

SEEKING BOARD MEMBER NOMINATIONS

ARSEA/APEAL is seeking nominations for active members to serve on our association’s board of directors.

“I encourage the membership to take an active role in this process by nominating qualified members that will best represent your interests,” ARSEA/APEAL President Mike Gillespie said. “Every association has untapped leaders who are willing to step forward and serve and this nomination process offers an opportunity to discover ours.”

District board members will be elected at the respective district meetings and officer positions will be filled by a statewide election held in May. Vice Presidents serve two-year terms and must reside in the regions they represent while district board members serve three-year terms and are required to live within the districts they represent. Please refer to the highlighted map to determine eligibility and the districts holding elections this year.

The Nomination and Elections Committee will consider several variables in selecting candidates for the board, which include demonstrated leadership ability and the capacity to contribute to ARSEA/APEAL’s overall goals and purposes.

If you are interested in serving on the ARSEA/APEAL Board or if you have someone else in mind, please contact Sara Phillips at sphillips@arsea.org or (334) 834-

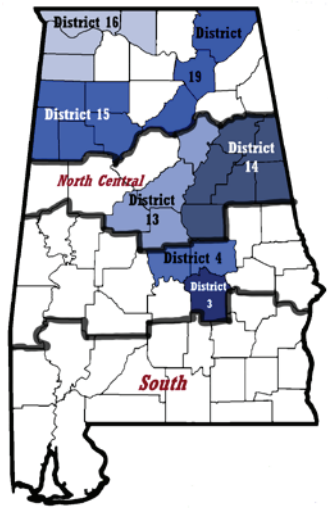
9116 or (800) 844-7732. We will provide information regarding the roles of board members and officers as well as eligibility and nomination procedures.

All nominations must be received by noon on March 1, 2023, and should be submitted to ARSEA Nominations & Elections Committee, 450 South Union Street, Montgomery, AL 36104.

The terms of office will begin July 1, 2023.

- President Elect**- Open - (Serves one year as President-Elect, President & Immediate Past President)
- Vice President South** - Buck Lee*
- Vice President North Central** - Open
- District 3** - Richard Cater*
- District 4** - Thera Herring*
- District 13** - Winkler Sims*
- District 14** - Mike Sparks*
- District 15** - Jeff Sparks*
- District 16** - Open
- District 19** - Cynthia Dillard*

*Eligible for 2nd Term

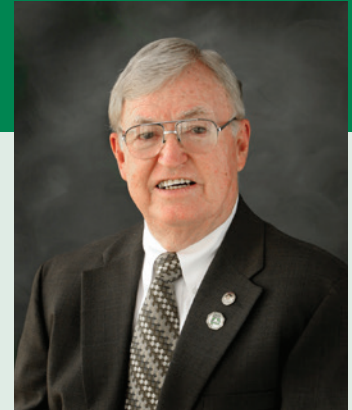


ARSEA/APEAL REMEMBERS

EMORY MAX DAVIS

FEBRUARY 21, 1932 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

ARSEA/APEAL Past President Max Davis of Dothan, who led our association from 2002 - 2003, passed away in September at the age of 90. A retiree from the Alabama Department of Industrial Relations, Davis was an exceptional recruiter of new members and leaders in the Houston County area, which helped earn his chapter being presented the Chapter of the Year award in 2004. Davis was inducted into the Senior Citizens Hall of Fame following his presidency in 2003 and presented with the ARSEA/APEAL Distinguished Service award in 2011 for his many years of leadership.



TOMMY M. LANGHAM

SEPTEMBER 23, 1930 – OCTOBER 23, 2022

Tommy M. Langham of Bay Minette, who passed away in October at the age of 92, was a former member of the ARSEA/APEAL Board of Directors. Langham was an active member of our association following his retirement as the Bay Minette city clerk in 2001 and served as the FOREPAC District Area Chair for District 5 for many years. He received the Eagle Award in 2009 for distinguished service on the board and was presented with the Pioneer Award in 2013 for his many total years of service to retirees in Baldwin County.



ATTENTION PUBLIC SAFETY RETIREES

The Employees Retirement System and Teachers Retirement System boards recently approved implementation of the Healthcare Enhancement for Local Public Safety (HELPS) Retirees Act.

The HELPS Retirees Act permits eligible retired public safety officers to use up to \$3,000 per year from their defined benefit plan on a pre-tax basis to pay for healthcare insurance premiums or long-term care premiums. Under current law, the money must be paid directly from the defined benefit plan to the insurance company.

As defined by the Internal Revenue Code, public safety retirees who qualify include state troopers, police officers, corrections, parole, probation, judicial, firefighters, rescue

squad, ambulance crew and fire or police department chaplains who have retired and are drawing a retirement benefit from the ERS or TRS.

If you are currently retired and eligible to participate, you should have received a letter in December providing additional information about the HELPS Retirees Act and a form to complete should you choose to participate.

You can find more information about the program on the RSA website at rsa-al.gov. If you have questions, you can contact us through the RSA website or by calling 877.517.0020 or 334.517.7000. You may also read more about the law at the IRS website at www.irs.gov/irb/2007-52_IRB#NOT-2007-99.

ATTENTION STATE RETIREES

2022 PART D SURCHARGE REIMBURSEMENT FOR STATE MEDICARE RETIREES



State retirees with Medicare Advantage coverage may be eligible for an insurance reimbursement from SEIB!

If you had a Part D Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA) surcharge deducted from your 2022 Social Security payment, an annual reimbursement of those surcharges may be requested from the State Employees' Insurance Board (SEIB). Part B Premiums or the IRMAA related to Part B are not eligible for reimbursement.

Please refer to the chart below to determine if you are eligible for this reimbursement. To request a reimbursement, you must submit a copy of your Social Security statement showing the 2022 Part D premium amount that was deducted from your Social Security income. Please email this information to accounting@alseib.org or send by mail to: SEIB, Attn: Accounting, P.O. Box 304900, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-4900.

WHAT IS IRMAA

The income-related monthly adjustment amount, or IRMAA, is a surcharge that you may pay in addition to your Medicare Part B and Part D premiums if your income is above certain levels. The Medicare IRMAA for Part B went into effect in 2007, while the IRMAA for Part D was implemented as part of the Affordable Care Act in 2011.

If you have questions about your benefits, please visit www.alseib.org or call 866-836-9737.

The Social Security Administration (SSA) determines if you owe an IRMAA based on the income you reported on your IRS tax return two years prior. For example, in 2023, the SSA looks at the 2021 income data you filed with your tax return. If you are expected to pay an IRMAA, the SSA will notify you that you have a higher premium.

HOW TO MAKE AN APPEAL

If you have had a life changing event which has changed your income such as marriage, divorce, death of a spouse, or retirement, you can request a new assessment. To do this, contact Social Security at 800-772-1213 or make an appointment with Social Security to file a request for a new determination using a Medicare IRMAA Life Changing Event Form.

2022 MEDICARE & IRMAA CHART

FILED INDIVIDUAL TAX RETURN WITH MODIFIED ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME:	FILED JOINT TAX RETURN WITH MODIFIED ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME:	YOUR MONTHLY MEDICARE PART B PREMIUM:	YOUR REIMBURSABLE PART D IRMAA MONTHLY SURCHARGE:
Less than or equal to \$97,000	Less than or equal to \$194,000	\$164.90	\$0.00
Greater than \$97,000 and less than or equal to \$123,000	Greater than \$194,000 and less than or equal to \$246,000	\$230.80	\$12.20
Greater than \$123,000 and less than or equal to \$153,000	Greater than \$246,000 and less than or equal to \$306,000	\$329.70	\$31.50
Greater than \$153,000 and less than or equal to \$183,000	Greater than \$306,000 and less than or equal to \$366,000	\$428.60	\$50.70
Greater than \$183,000 and less than or equal to \$500,000	Greater than \$366,000 and less than or equal to \$750,000	\$527.50	\$70.00
Greater than or equal to \$500,000	Greater than or equal to \$750,000	\$560.50	\$76.40



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A photograph of the Alabama State Capitol dome, showing the white dome and a clock tower with a clock face, set against a clear blue sky.

ARSEA APEAL UPDATE

Alabama Retired State Employees Association
Alabama Public Employees Advocacy League

EMAIL ADDRESSES NEEDED

If you are not receiving our Weekly Update, you are DEFINITELY missing out!

The Weekly Update allows us to keep members informed in a timely manner and is a vital piece of communication, particularly when the Alabama Legislature is in session.

To make sure we have your correct email address send a message from your preferred e-mail address to retire@arsea.org. Please include your name, phone number and city of residence.