



10/03/2023

**Re: Imperative Need for an ERS Pension Increase in the Upcoming Special Session**

Governor Abbott,

We write to you today not just as State Representatives, but as a unified voice echoing the urgent concerns of many retired and active state employees who feel increasingly unheard in Texas. The matter at hand is the Employee Retirement System (ERS) pension increase, a long-overdue relief that has unfortunately remained unaddressed.

Texas has 122,700 ERS retirees, and each one of them has borne the weight of over two decades without a pension increase. This stagnation stands in stark contrast to the steadily rising cost of living, making their everyday existence progressively more challenging.

In the 88th Legislature's regular session, a consensus emerged across both sides of the aisle, recognizing the pressing need for this increase. Such bipartisan acknowledgment should signal the gravity and urgency of this issue. Our retired state employees, having given their years in service to Texas, deserve at the very least to be acknowledged and supported in their twilight years.

With a potential upcoming special session on the horizon, we strongly urge you to prioritize the ERS pension increase on the agenda. This isn't about politics; it's about doing right by those who have given so much to our state.

If more information is required to comprehend the gravity of this situation, or to appreciate the struggles of our retired state employees, we are happy to meet with your office on this matter.

It is our hope that this special session can be used as an opportunity to demonstrate to our citizens that their welfare and concerns are genuinely considered and acted upon.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Vikki Goodwin in black ink.

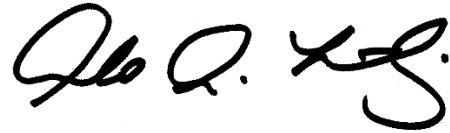
Representative Vikki Goodwin  
House District 47

Handwritten signature of Senfronia Thompson in black ink.

Representative Senfronia Thompson  
House District 141



Representative Alma Allen  
House District 131



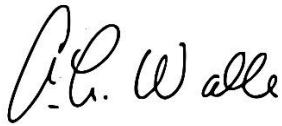
Representative Armando Martinez  
House District 39



Representative Rafael Anchia  
House District 103



Representative Donna Howard  
House District 48



Representative Armando Walle  
House District 140



Representative Ron Reynolds  
House District 27



Representative Gene Wu  
House District 137



Representative Nicole Collier  
House District 95



Representative John Bryant  
House District 114



Representative Mary Ann Perez  
House District 144



Representative Diego Bernal  
House District 123



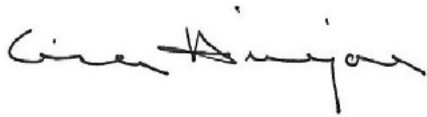
Representative Jarvis Johnson  
House District 139



Representative Victoria Neave Criado  
House District 107



Representative Barbara Gervin-Hawkins  
House District 120



Representative Gina Hinojosa  
House District 49



Representative Lina Ortega  
House District 77



Representative Jon E. Rosenthal  
House District 135



Representative James Talarico  
House District 50



Representative John H. Bucy III  
House District 136



Representative Ana-Maria Ramos  
House District 102



Representative Jessica Gonzalez  
House District 104



Representative Sheryl Cole  
House District 46



Representative Erin Zwiener  
House District 45



Representative Carl O. Sherman  
House District 109



Representative Julie Johnson  
House District 115



Representative Christina Morales  
House District 145



Representative Ray Lopez  
House District 125



Representative Claudia Ordaz  
House District 79



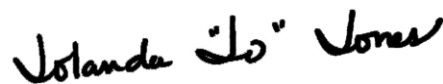
Representative Elizabeth Campos  
House District 148



Representative Ann Johnson  
House District 134



Representative Penny Morales Shaw  
House District 119



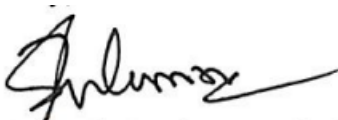
Representative Jolanda Jones  
House District 147



Representative Lulu Flores  
House District 51



Representative Josey Garcia  
House District 124



Representative Suleman Lalani M.D.  
House District 76



Representative Mihaela E. Plesa  
House District 70