

RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES COUNCIL OF WASHINGTON
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE (SUB-COMMITTEE)
Report to the Executive Board

STATUS OF RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT RPEC CONVENTIONS FROM 2006 THROUGH 2016

Staff prepared a summary list of Resolutions adopted at Conventions in 2006-2016 which inspired the Legislative Committee to attempt to determine the status of each of these Resolutions. A sub-committee of the RPEC Legislative Committee (with one key addition) was formed to complete this task. The sub-committee included John O'Brien, Alma-Jean Marion, Kandy Kraig, George Masten, Maria Britton-Sipe, and Clair Olivers. We defined our task as determining and documenting our (RPEC's) accomplishments in addressing the Resolutions and the goals still to be achieved, as well as identifying issues that are no longer current or are outside the RPEC Mission. We felt that if the Board found our report to be accurate and informative that they might want to share it with the membership at this year's Convention as background on Resolutions and their impact on our work.

The summary included a total of 96 Resolutions, an average of almost 9 per Convention. We concluded:

- 43 of these Resolutions' recommended actions were accomplished
- 18 additional Resolutions include recommended actions that are still being pursued, including 12 that are covered by the priorities on our Legislative Priorities list
- 35 remaining Resolutions recommended actions that are either no longer needed (21) or were outside the Mission of RPEC (14)

In the case of several of the "Outside our Mission" items, we acknowledge that they are important to many of our members; but, they are not items we can or should initiate, though joining with others appropriately taking the lead is, in our opinion, a reasonable approach.

Our "**Accomplishments**" include a wide range of issues, some only partially meeting our objective, keeping them on our active priorities. A sampling of accomplished issues:

- Upgraded RPEC web site
- Greater access to PEBB coverage
- Greater hearing aid coverage
- Medicare cards without SS numbers
- Paper trail for computerized voting
- Full actuarial contribution rates (with catch-up) to pensions
- Cooperate with others on tax reform and campaign funding efforts
- Support for single-payer health care reforms
- Implemented biennial Conventions
- Set up acceptance of credit card payments
- Developed retirement planning curriculum
- Lawsuits against PERS rollbacks
- Support active employee unions on critical issues

- License plate replacement only as-needed
- Support others in efforts to reverse Citizens United
- Join Healthy Washington Coalition and Social Security Works Washington
- Oppose creation of Plans 4
- Partial COLA restoration for Plans 1
- Partial restoration of PEBB supplement
- Increased outreach and coalition-building
- Create History Committee

Regarding the tasks that remain to be completed, the **“Still Needed”** items not covered by our list of priorities are those big taxation, campaign finance, and healthcare issues where we do not have the resources to lead but intend to join with coalitions that seem to have a chance of making progress on these issues. The other **“Still Needed”** items addressed in our Legislative Priorities include (note that some of these are also listed as accomplishments for progress made so far that is short of our goal):

- Protect and enhance Social Security and Medicare
- Obtain a recurring automatic COLA for Plans 1
- Obtain a 50% PEBB premium supplement
- Oppose any defined-contribution Plans 4
- Support efforts toward single-payer healthcare
- Change default membership for new hires to Plan 2
- Support full funding of retirement plans with catch-up
- Eliminate GPO/WEP in Social Security

The sub-committee members are grateful to RPEC staff for pulling the list of Resolutions together; and, we are, frankly, very pleased and a little bit surprised to see how much progress has been made on our members’ concerns over these past 12 years. We recognize that we have set some big goals for ourselves which will require a lot more work and time to accomplish; therefore, we recommend that this progress report be updated on a regular basis, at least in advance of each Convention so it can be presented to the membership.