



For Immediate Release

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School retiree group lauds governor's proposed pension tax repeal

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's proposed repeal of the expanded pension tax is welcome news to the thousands of Michigan public school retirees who began paying the tax when it took effect in 2011.

"Our members are happy to hear that the governor is delivering on a campaign promise to restore the tax exemption for Michigan retirees who were born after 1946," says **Mark Guastella**, Michigan Association of Retired School Personnel (MARSP) executive director. "When the pension tax went into effect in 2012, a huge number of our members began to face unexpected taxation on their retirement benefits. Many of them had retired and established financial plans based on those benefits."

MARSP members also lauded the budget proposal for its support of education, with increased funding for K-12 schools, colleges and universities.

"The new administration's support of education and the professionals who deliver academic services to students at all levels is encouraging," says **Paul Lerg**, MARSP president. "As retired educators, we can attest to the need for additional funding to help educate Michigan young people to fill the jobs of tomorrow."

MARSP is an independent, non-partisan association of more than 40,000 retired public school employees from every work group and geographical location in Michigan. The association's primary mission is to protect the pension and health care benefits of retired public school employees.

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