

PRESS RELEASE

October 5, 2023

State Revenue Estimate Can Clear the Way for 13th Check for Retired State Employees

Austin, TX – October 5, 2023 -- Texas Public Employees Association Executive Director Ann Bishop has issued the following statement about the updated revenue estimate that Texas Comptroller Glenn Hegar released today:

"Comptroller Hegar's updated revenue estimate demonstrates that our state leaders have put Texas on strong fiscal ground. As they enter this special session, lawmakers are well-positioned to provide a 13th check for ERS retirees, who have not had a cost-of-living adjustment or pension enhancement since 2001.

"A 13th check — like the one that many retired teachers received this fall — would meet the deep needs of retirees as they deal with rising prices. We are hopeful that Gov. Abbott and lawmakers will show their support for the former state workers who helped make Texas great."

To schedule a telephone or Zoom interview with Ann Bishop, please contact: Gary Susswein, New West Communications, gary@newwestcomms.com, 512-694-7909

About TPEA:

Founded in 1946 by dedicated state employees, the Texas Public Employees Association (TPEA) has fought for over 75 years to promote and preserve the salaries and benefits for state employees and retirees—these benefits make it possible for Texans to devote themselves to careers in keeping Texas prosperous and growing. Today, TPEA is one of the largest associations for active and retired state employees, and it's also the only nonunion, nonpartisan association serving state employees during and after their careers. TPEA was instrumental in the creation of the Employees Retirement System (ERS) pension fund, and it successfully lobbied the Legislature to offer health insurance to state employees and retirees.

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