MICHIGAN SERA COUNCIL
STATE EMPLOYEE RETIREES ASSOCIATION

February 8, 2011

Honorable Tom McMillin, Chair
House Oversight, Reform, and Ethics Committee
894 House Office Building
Lansing, MI 48933

Re: HB 4156, Retirement, require posting of certain pension board expenditures

Dear Representative McMillin and Members of the House Oversight Committee;

The Council of the Michigan State Employee Retirees Association supports the intent of HB 4156, which we understand would require the pension boards of the city of Detroit and perhaps the counties of Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, and Kent to publish and make available to the public on a Website all expenditures made by the board of the system.

We suggest that the bill be amended to omit the population requirement and simply require all pension systems to publish their Board expenditures on a quarterly basis. This would make these expenditures transparent and deter abuse in all public pension systems in Michigan. We suggest the section read as follows:

> **A SYSTEM ~~THAT IS IN A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THIS STATE WITH A POPULATION OF 500,000 OR GREATER~~ SHALL PUBLISH AND MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC ON A WEBSITE ALL EXPENDITURES MADE BY THE BOARD OF THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, TRAVEL EXPENDITURES BY BOARD MEMBERS AND THE SYSTEM BUDGET. THE EXPENDITURE DISCLOSURE SHALL INCLUDE ALL EXPENDITURES MADE BY THE BOARD OF THE SYSTEM AND ITS MEMBERS. PUBLICATION AND AVAILABILITY SHALL BE ON A QUARTERLY BASIS.**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

/s/

Mary Pollock
Legislative Representative

Emeritus Members: John Adams (12/12/22-1/18/03);Zetta Eby (3/20/11-10/23/02); John Gambotto (11/4/09-5/18/90); Lindy Guy; Polly Guy; Ralph Horrocks; Clarence Rosa (7/13/12-11/23/90); Edward Setlock (5/30/15-11/7/09);Alvin Trierweiler (2/15/20-2/26/08)