



RYAN GUILLEN
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TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2016

**GUILLEN SAYS RETIREE BENEFITS WILL
BE AMONG TOP PRIORITIES NEXT SESSION**

AUSTIN – Following the TRS Board’s approval of changes to the retired teacher health insurance program, State Representative Ryan Guillen (D – District 31) reiterated his commitment to retirees, announcing that protecting and improving retiree benefits will be a top priority in the 2017 legislative session.

“We owe a great debt to our retired teachers for their years of service educating our children,” said Guillen. “We need to take a long, careful look at these changes to ensure that our teachers are receiving the retirement benefits that they deserve.”

The changes proposed by the TRS Board of Trustees go into effect in September and include a number of major changes. Among the changes are increased deductibles, increased out-of-pocket maximum costs, new convenience fees for local pharmacy prescription drug fills, and new rules regarding Medicare D.

These changes mark the first time in 12 years that TRS has introduced a benefit reduction to TRS-Care and are an attempt to prevent a negative fund balance. The 2015 Legislative Session approved \$786 million in supplemental funding for TRS-Care and a shortfall is anticipated again in the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

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