

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE - Week 5  
Charlie Roberts  
2/22/09

This was the week when Power Politics dominated the Legislative Calendar. Tax Issues, Public School Choice, Vouchers, School Management, and Education Governance were all debated in committee meetings or in chamber. There were no retirement meetings in the House or Senate but it appears both will have a full agenda next Wednesday as other retirement associations have filed for assistance. To date, there have been no TRS or ERS bills listed.

Because some of our memberships are under ERS I am continuing to follow ERS bills. Issues that could later show up as TRS legislation I have spoken against with some success. Many changes were made in ERS last year over our objection.

Three retirement bills are now on the General Calendar in the House and I will follow these closely as they could be amended on the floor.

1. HB 172 - TRS Disability Benefits
2. HB 202 - Defines certain retirement terms
3. HB 211 - Requires all retirement and pension action against boards of trustees to be resolved in the Superior Court of Fulton County

Time is running out on bills to be heard in committee. We have some objections to our proposed bill to have our Executive Director placed on the TRS Board of Directors. This will have my main focus next week and I will report back to you.

Next week is scheduled as another 3-day legislative week and I will post the next UPDATE on March 2.