

By: Lela Foreman

DR-16

Committee: Retirement & Aging

RESOLUTION
Urge Repeal of Government Pension Offset

A RESOLUTION to call for the repeal of the Government Pension Offset enacted by Congress in 1977

WHEREAS, The Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRS) is leading a cause to repeal the Government Pension Offset (GPO), enacted by Congress in 1977, and modified somewhat in subsequent amendments to the Social Security Act; and

WHEREAS, The GPO law states if you worked for a federal, state, or local government entity (i.e. a school district) where you did not pay Social Security taxes, the pension you receive from that entity (i.e. TRS) will reduce any Social Security spousal benefits to which you are entitled by two-thirds; and

WHEREAS, The GPO unfairly singles out 305,000 workers with governmental pension compared to those with private pensions by reducing their earned Social Security benefits by two-thirds or completely in some cases; and

WHEREAS the GPO affects educators, policemen, firemen, and city and county employees that had governmental entities elect not to pay Social Security on their employees, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature support the total repeal of the Government Pension Offset; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the 78th Texas Legislature work toward passage of national legislation to repeal this unjust law.

PASSED AND APPROVED on September 17, 2002, by the Retirement & Aging Committee.

Thomas V. Perkins, Chairman

PASSED AND APPROVED on September 18, 2002, by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

Chris Kyker, Speaker

ATTEST:

Jean McCloud, Secretary