

NEWS RELEASE August 17, 2015

KASA President Testifies in Support of KTRS Funding

(FRANKFORT, Ky.—) KASA President Barry Lee testified before the panel appointed by Governor Beshear to make recommendations related to the future of the Kentucky Teachers' Retirement System in Frankfort on Friday, September 11, 2015.

Lee emphasized three key points:

- KTRS benefits represent a longstanding promise made by the General Assembly to Kentucky's retired and active educators, and the legislature has a legal and moral duty to keep that promise.
- The issuance of bonds to infuse immediate funds into the retirement system is a viable element of a broader strategy to assure the ongoing fiscal integrity of KTRS.
- Any changes that are considered to the retirement system for future KTRS members must not serve as a disincentive to become a teacher or administrator.



**KASA President
Barry Lee,**
*Director of Special
Education, Pulaski
County Schools*

"The Kentucky General Assembly made an unbreakable promise to Kentucky's teachers and administrators. That promise was this: that in return for a career of dedicated service to Kentucky's students, professional educators would be guaranteed a secure, quantifiable, and adequate system of requirement benefits," Lee said.

"If we destroy one of the key incentives for students to choose education as a career, we will have done permanent and irreversible harm to the future and economic growth of our Commonwealth," Lee said.

Lee has devoted over twelve years as an educator in Kentucky, working as a middle school special education teacher, high school principal, and director of special education. Lee has been an active KASA member, serving on the Next Generation Leading and Learning and Annual Leadership Institute committees and as the Lake Cumberland representative on the board of directors. He has been a KASA member for eight years.

The Kentucky Association of School Administrators is the largest school administrators group in Kentucky, representing more than 3,000 education leaders from across the commonwealth. Formed in 1969, KASA connects education leaders to policymakers, legislators, and other interest groups.

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