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STATE: *Maryland General Assembly*

www.mgaleg.maryland.gov
1-800-492-7122

FEDERAL: *U.S. Congress*

www.congress.gov
202-225-7000

U.S. House of Representatives

www.house.gov
202-224-3121

U.S. Senate

www.senate.gov
202-224-3121

MRSPA “Cs” You...
through Communication,
Commitment, Community

MRSPA MISSION STATEMENT

The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association is a non-profit organization comprised of almost 13,000 retired school system personnel. It serves as an advocate for and provides expanding services to members, empowering them to enrich the quality of their lives. The Organization is dedicated to excellence in education and lifelong learning. It promotes community service by its members through a myriad of volunteer activities.

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The MRSPA Legislative Committee has statewide representation and provides leadership on legislative issues which affect MRSPA members and all Maryland citizens. These legislative priorities were developed with the participation and support of members. The committee reviews and takes positions on legislation and communicates through newsletters, legislative alerts, and the MRSPA website: www.mrspa.org.



**Maryland Retired School
Personnel Association**

***Legislative Priorities
2022***



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The Maryland Retired School Personnel Association advocates for its almost 13,000 members. The organization encourages members to serve in their local communities and work with legislators statewide.

PENSION PROTECTION

MRSPA works to protect defined benefit pensions and a secure retirement for all Marylanders. Pensions contribute to the state economy and promote financial security. Full funding of the state pension system is our top priority, including the commitment to fully fund make-up contributions, to ensure system sustainability.

HEALTH CARE

MRSPA supports legislation that provides full-funding of local school systems as they provide health benefits/options for retired school personnel. MRSPA supports legislation to control the cost of prescription drugs.

EDUCATION

MRSPA supports public education in all Maryland jurisdictions, including pre-school and lifelong learning options. State support for these programs is essential to forming an educated and productive citizenry.

TECHNOLOGY

MRSPA supports legislation and grant programs to promote access to computers, the internet, and training to decrease the isolation of seniors and to close the digital divide. Lack of access to broadband, Wi-Fi, and internet-based programs limit access to telehealth/telemedicine, connections with family and friends, and access to news and other current information.

SAFETY

MRSPA advocates preventing abuse and neglect of vulnerable adults, and supports legislation to reduce crime and violence against seniors. The State continues to work to identify best practices in an effort to combat elder abuse, exploitation, and neglect.

CIVIC PARTICIPATION

MRSPA supports legislation that protects the right of every eligible citizen to vote. Of special concern to our members are voter ID requirements, access to the ballot box, absentee and mail in voting laws, and restrictions on the time and place of voting.



CONSUMER PROTECTION

MRSPA supports legislation that provides protection from identity theft, fraud, and scams for seniors and vulnerable adults. Theft of funds from investment portfolios and other financial accounts is of great concern. MRSPA supports legislation that protects all seniors, especially those with diminished capacity, from financial exploitation.

QUALITY OF LIFE

MRSPA supports services and communities to help older adults age in place and supports programs to help older adults remain healthy, active and independent.

LONG TERM CARE

MRSPA supports legislation to address the rising cost of long term care insurance. Older adults who invested in long term care insurance to provide for their own care are faced with unreasonable price increases or a loss of benefits. These increases are prohibitively expensive and should be negotiable and greatly limited.