

STATE OF KANSAS

BRUCE GIVENS  
SENATOR, 14TH DISTRICT  
1525 COUNTRY CLUB RD  
EL DORADO, KS 67042



STATE CAPITOL  
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612  
(785) 296-7678

TOPEKA

SENATE CHAMBER

TO: Senate Ways & Means Committee

RE: Senate Bill 274

In my first year in the legislature, the Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee wrestled with Working After Retirement (WAR) for KPERS employees. This led to negotiations with the House and resulted in what we have today.

SB 274 begins with a story about a special education provider who waited to retire until she was almost 70. A few years later, she was asked by the same employer where she retired from, to come back to work, because a licensed person for the position could not be found. So, for the love of the students and her former employer she returned. She was surprised to learn that there was a charge for returning – 30% of her wages now had to be sent to KPERS. Her employer explained that it would be reduced from her earnings and sent to KPERS.

It is my belief that if a person does not retire prior to age 65, but for some reason returns to work after the 180 day waiting period, there should not be a WAR surcharge. There should be some reward for those who do not retire as soon as they reach minimum retirement age.

SB 274 would not help many USDs, Inter-locals and Cooperatives find hard to fill positions, but it would help a few.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bruce Givens".

Senator Bruce Givens