




**Date:** February 1, 2005  
**To:** Honorable Mayor and City Council  
**From:** Councilwoman Laura Richardson, Sixth District 

**Subject:** **AGENDA ITEM - REQUEST CITY COUNCIL TO ADOPT RESOLUTION  
OPPOSING STATE-MANDATED TWO-TIERED RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND  
MANDATORY PRIVATE CONTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR CALIFORNIA'S STATE  
AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES**

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As part of his review of policies and practices in the State of California, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has proposed a constitutional amendment to revise the existing Public Employee's Retirement System (PERS). The proposals being discussed include replacing the current system with a mandatory individual private contribution system for new and/or existing employees.

Many people around the state including the California Professional Firefighters and Long Beach Local 372 are concerned that the creation of a mandatory two-tiered retirement system for public employees would have several negative impacts including: impeding state and local governments' ability to negotiate appropriately to attract the best and brightest candidates to public service employment; devastating employee morale; and encouraging state and local employees to change jobs more frequently resulting in a talent drain and higher costs for training and human resource development.

I am requesting that the Long Beach City Council adopt a resolution opposing the creation of a mandatory two-tiered retirement system for state and local government employees in California and oppose the imposition of a mandatory private contribution system. This resolution should in no way prohibit the proper evaluation of PERS. Rather the intent of the resolution is to oppose the State mandating local government benefit options that best suit their budgets and employee packages, particularly after several years have been invested. A sample resolution is attached.

I look forward to your support for this proposal.

CLR/TL  
2105CCResolutionReq

Attachment

cc: City Manager  
City Attorney  
City Clerk  
Chief of Police