



SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF OHIO

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LISA J. MORRIS
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October 14, 2015

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
United States Senate
713 Hart Building
Washington DC, 20510

Dear Senator Brown:

On behalf of the more than 72,000 retirees of the School Employees Retirement System of Ohio (SERS), I want to thank you for introducing the Protecting Medicare Beneficiaries Act of 2015.

Eliminating the proposed 52% Medicare Part B premium increase is especially important in Ohio where most retired public employees would be affected by the increase because they did not pay into Social Security.

The proposed \$54 monthly increase and increased deductible would be an extreme financial hardship on SERS' retirees. Our retirees mostly worked in important, yet lower-paid positions in Ohio's schools as bus drivers, custodians, food service workers, teacher aides, and administrative assistants. They retired with modest pensions – about \$1,116 per month. This unexpected increase would make it extraordinarily difficult to pay for basic needs such as food, shelter, and transportation.

Thank you again for taking a lead role in eliminating this dramatic increase in the Medicare Part B premium and deductible. Please let us know if we can assist in any way.

Sincerely,



Lisa J. Morris
Executive Director

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