

# 2017 Legislative Priorities of HSTA-Retired

## RETIREMENT ISSUES

- Support legislation to allow the pensions of public employees to keep up with the cost of living.
- Support preservation of current retiree benefits.
  - **Oppose taxing all retiree pensions.**
  - **Oppose eliminating reimbursement of Medicare Part B premiums.**
  - **Oppose any reductions to Social Security and Medicare.**
- Support legislation on a long range plan toward eliminating the unfunded liability of the Employees Union Trust Fund Health Benefits; provided current benefits are not diminished.
- Support legislation to have retiree's health premiums deducted from monthly pension.
- Support legislation to strengthen Social Security and Medicare.

## HEALTH ISSUES

- Support legislation to allow bargaining Unit 5 members and retirees to participate in a VEBA trust.

- Support the preservation of health care benefits for retired public employees by opposing legislation to eliminate reimbursement of Medicare Part B.
- Support proposals to lower the cost of prescription drugs and allow approved drugs to be imported under federal regulations.
- Support state and national health reform legislation to make affordable health care available to all Americans.
- Support legislation on long term care.

## EDUCATION ISSUES

- Support legislation to adequately fund Hawaii's public schools.
- Support HSTA and its commitment to the improvement of public education, Pre K to 20.
- Support NEA's recommendation for the Elementary Secondary Education Act (ESEA) reauthorization bill.