



# **RALLY FOR RETIREMENT**

**Saturday, February 6, 2010**

**Utah State Capitol (south side steps)**

**11 AM - 12:30 PM**

**All USEA members are invited to attend!**

## **WHY RALLY?**

Our employee retirement system is under attack. We need to fight back and let the Utah Legislature know how we feel about their plans to change our retirement system. We need a minimum of 800 USEA members to join us on Capitol Hill on Saturday, February 6, 2010.

The purpose of this rally is to:

- Show unity among public employees. The Utah Education Association, Utah Public Employees Association and Fraternal Order of Police will also be participating.
- Show how many people will be affected by reduced retirement benefits.
- Show the importance of investing in education and public employees.
- Garner support for our retirement benefits and educate the Legislature and the public on the following:

## **RETIREMENT TALKING POINTS**

- We cannot attract and retain the best teachers, school employees, police officers and state employees to Utah if we continue to cut compensation.
- For years, education and public employees have given up increased salary and other benefits to maintain a strong retirement system.
- Drastic changes that will impact future generations should not be made without fully understanding if the changes are necessary and exploring all possible solutions. Current proposals are based on only two Legislative Interim meetings.
- Like all businesses and individuals, the Utah Retirement Systems experienced investment losses during the recession, but the economy is rebounding. The URS remains one of the best funded systems in the nation. In fact, the URS's own board and officers say the system is financially sound.
- Research shows defined benefit retirement plans can actually save taxpayers money and are a good taxpayer investment.
- This is a very important issue that will be closely watched by the 180,000 participants in the Utah Retirement Systems and their families.
- The URS was founded by Utah state employees for Utah state employees. Let them decide if changes are needed in their system.

## **CAN'T RALLY?**

USEA understands that conflicts of schedules or distance may prohibit some people from attending the Rally for Retirement at the capitol. We request that those who can't attend access [USEAUTAH.org](http://USEAUTAH.org) and use the links provided to contact their legislators about this critical issue. Updates on this and other important issues will also be available throughout the Legislative Session on this site. Use the talking points above to help focus your comments to legislators.