



**Memorandum**

---

To: Members of the Pennsylvania House State Government Subcommittee on Public Pensions, Benefits and Risk Management  
From: Arthur G. Steinberg, AFT Pennsylvania  
Date: January 20, 2022  
RE: Bills to be heard in Thursday's Sub Committee.

---

On behalf of the 36,000 members of AFT Pennsylvania, we wanted to share with you our position on some to the legislation being heard today.

**House Bill 967 PN 977 (Rep. Kinsey):** In the last couple of years, PSERS has worked with a couple of stakeholders to streamline the process to allow annuitants to serve as substitutes potentially indefinitely in a school year without the risk of the loss of their annuity. With our substitute shortage across the Commonwealth, AFT Pennsylvania recommends that this bill codify those changes and processes to allow annuitants to act as a substitute teacher without losing their earned pension and include language that they would be eligible to work up to 180 days within a school year. In the current form of this legislation, we feel it could hurt the process of having qualified long-term substitutes in our classrooms. Retired teachers are a fantastic asset for our schools to rely on as our schools deal with these long-term teacher shortages.

**House Bill 1442 PN 1556 (Rep. DeLuca):** AFT Pennsylvania Opposes HB 1442. This legislation would hinder those people who want to make a second career working for the people of the Commonwealth. Public Service, whether at the school level, municipal level or the state level, are positions that do not offer some of the pay and incentives that private sector employment can. Part of the enticement to serve in the public sector is to work for less salary but have a secure pension to live on when you officially retire. Some public sector jobs require individuals to retire by a certain age when they still have skills and abilities to offer to the taxpayers of Pennsylvania. We ask you to vote no on this and work to strengthen our public pension system so public servants can retire comfortably.