R#1

Subject: Legislative
Submitted by: Melvin Friese
Category: Resolution

Whereas yearly increases in retiree healthcare costs are severely affecting retirees’ budgets;

Be it resolved that the State Employees Association find a legislator to sponsor a bill to reverse the requirement the over 65s born on or after Jan 1, 1949 to pay a portion of their plan premiums.
R#2

Subject: Legislative
Submitted by: Retirement Committee
Category: Resolution

Whereas yearly increases in retiree healthcare costs are severely affecting retirees' budgets;

Be it resolved that the State Employees Association find a legislator to sponsor a bill to reverse the additional costs to those 60 to 65 for their health insurance premium(s).
R#3

Subject: Legislative
Submitted by: Retirement Committee
Category: Resolution

Whereas yearly increases in retiree healthcare costs are severely affecting retirees’ budgets;

Be it resolved that the State Employees Association find a legislator to sponsor a bill to reverse the additional cost of prescription drugs (generic, preferred, and non-preferred copays were increased).
R#4

Subject: Legislative
Submitted by: Retirement Committee
Category: Resolution

Whereas to provide some relief to retirees’ budgets, and to end the practice of decreasing the pension at age 65 even new retirees cannot receive their full SSA retirement benefit until after age 65;

Be it resolved that the State Employees Association find a legislator to sponsor a bill to move the NHRS Social Security offset to an individual’s full Social Security retirement age.
R#5

Subject: Legislative
Submitted by: Retirement Committee
Category: Resolution

Whereas the investment fees and other expenses that NHRS is paying has a direct impact on the re-turn on investment that our members see in the corpus of the fund; and

Whereas the investment fees and other expenses that NHRS affects the unfunded liability of the corpus of the fund. This is a contributing factor to future legislative actions concerning the NHRS system. These factors include but are not limited to employee contribution rates, COLAs, and replacement retirement systems; and

Whereas a part of evaluating if the independent investment committee is doing well with its investment is the fees that they are paying for trades; and

Whereas any report given to the legislature could be subject to a right-to-know request that the SEA could use to defend or refute future retirement legislation;

Be it resolved that the SEA find a legislator to sponsor a bill that would require NHRS to create a quarterly report on all fees being paid by NHRS, including to whom the fee was paid and the amount paid, fees for trades and investment, and legal fees for defending law suits against the fund or against the members of the retirement board.
R#6

Subject: Legislative
Submitted by: Retirement Committee
Category: Resolution

Whereas we to fight every year for a COLA for our retirees and rarely receive one; and

Whereas the current law that describes the NHRS system doesn’t contain any language for a COLA; and

Whereas Maine has in its law an automatic COLA based on the consumer price index or the All Urban Consumers index whichever is lower; and

Whereas as the price for items that our retirees pay for increases, their retirement payments should also increase; and

Whereas including a cap will ensure that that the state doesn’t have a huge jump in cost during any particular budget cycle;

Be it resolved that the SEA find a legislator to sponsor a bill to change the RSA that governs the NHRS to include an automatic cola for retirees based on the percentage the consumer price index increases each budget cycle, and

Be it further resolved that any year that the consumer price index does not increase there will be no COLA; and

Be it further resolved that any year where the consumer price index decreases will not affect retiree payments.