

February 22, 2021

The Honorable Lynne Ober, Chairwoman Division 1 – House Finance Committee 33 North State St, Legislative Office Building Rm 210-211 Concord, NH 03301-6334

Dear Chairwoman Ober:

As you are aware, the New Hampshire Retirement System is a component unit of state government, funded by a separate pension trust under the oversight of its Board of Trustees, and not the state's general fund. Accordingly, the financial implications of NHRS staffing decisions are effectively a pass-through in terms of the state's budget.

That being said, our responses to the questions posed in your letter dated February 19, 2021, are presented in *italics* after each question below:

- 1. What new full-time staff has been added to your budget?
 - a. Cost for each staff member added (salary, benefits, IT, telecom, desk, equipment, office space).
 - b. Brief description of the need for each staff member added.

No new full-time staff has been added to the NHRS budget for the FY 2022/2023 biennium. 71 full-time positions were authorized by the NHRS Board of Trustees for the FY 2022/2023 budget, which is the same number authorized for the previous biennium.

- 2. What new part-time staff has been added to your budget?
 - a. Cost for each staff member added (salary, benefits, IT, telecom, desk, equipment, office space).
 - b. Brief description of the need for each staff member added

No new part-time staff has been added to the NHRS budget for the FY 2022/2023 biennium.

- 3. What positions had to be eliminated in order to meet the governor's budget requirements?
 - a. Cost for each staff member added (salary, benefits, IT, telecom, desk, equipment, office space).
 - b. Brief description of the need for each staff member added.
 - c. How will work done by this position be accomplished without the position?

No positions were eliminated in the FY 2022/2023 budget adopted by the NHRS Board of Trustees at its September 8, 2020 meeting.

4. Is your agency adequately staffed to complete all work assigned to your agency in state law?

At this time, the NHRS Board of Trustees has authorized staffing levels that allow NHRS to administer its statutory responsibilities.

- 5. If the answer to Q. 4 is no, please describe.
 - a. If we cannot add adequate staffing, should we consider suspending that law for the biennium?

This question is not applicable.

6. What things are you doing (found in state law) that could be eliminated and why?

None identified at this time.

7. What priorities did you have that were not funded? Cost? Description? Impact of not funding?

None identified at this time.

8. Please be prepared to discuss any HB2 sections that apply to your agency.

As of the writing of this letter, NHRS is not yet aware of any HB2 sections that apply to the retirement system.

We look forward to speaking with you during our scheduled time slot, during which we would be happy to discuss with the committee these answers as well as the FY 2022/2023 budget adopted by the NHRS Board of Trustees. Thank you.

Sincerely,

George Lagos NHRS Executive Director