

**National Council on Teacher Retirement**  
**RESOLUTIONS**



**Adopted at the**  
**NCTR 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention**  
**Business Meeting**  
**October 14, 2009**  
**2:00 pm**

*Presented by:*  
**The 2009 NCTR Resolutions Committee**

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## **IN MEMORIAM TOMMY C. BEAVERS**

**WHEREAS**, Tommy C. Beavers passed away on September 14, 2009, after retiring on January 1, 2009, as Executive Secretary of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma; and

**WHEREAS**, Tommy C. Beavers joined the staff of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma in 1970 as Assistant Secretary-Treasurer managing and developing the System's data processing division, was promoted in 1980 to Secretary-Treasurer where he was responsible for the financial and investment operations of the Retirement Fund, and then in 1988 was named Executive Secretary where he was responsible for the overall administration of the System reporting to a 13-member Board of Trustees and working closely with the executive and legislative branches of state government; and

**WHEREAS**, Tommy C. Beavers brought high standards of leadership, honesty, loyalty, dedication, and integrity to each position he served, working to provide a better retirement program for the educators, administrators and support personnel in public education of Oklahoma; and

**WHEREAS**, Tommy C. Beavers provided invaluable guidance and insight leading the System in its mission to provide retirement benefits to Oklahoma's educators, ensuring adequate funds were maintained to meet the financial obligations of the entire membership, overseeing the investment of TRS funds for maximum gains, minimizing losses and protecting the Trust, assisting the membership in planning for and enjoying a well-earned retirement, and traveling many miles throughout this great state educating active and retired members about the Retirement System; and

**WHEREAS**, under the strong leadership of Tommy C. Beavers, the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma experienced growth in assets from \$153 million in 1970 to \$8.6 billion in 2008, experienced growth in membership from 48,000 in 1970 to 147,000 in 2008, and experienced growth in benefit payments from \$15 million in 1970 to \$847 million in 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, prior to joining the staff of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma, Tommy C. Beavers graduated from the University of Central Oklahoma with a B.S. in Accounting and Education in 1964, served in the U.S. Marine Corp from 1966 to 1969 attaining the rank of Captain and serving the United States in Vietnam, and received a Masters in Public School Administration from the University of Oklahoma in 1973; and

**WHEREAS**, Tommy C. Beavers is a former member of the Central State University Foundation, served as Treasurer of the Oliver Hodge Memorial Scholarship Foundation, served as president of the National Council on Teacher Retirement from 1999 to 2000,



served on various committees of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, including the Executive Committee, Nominating Committee, Legislative Committee, Credentials Committee, and Committee to Study Special Issues, and was an active participant in the Southern Conference on Teacher Retirement planning and hosting several conferences in Oklahoma; and

**WHEREAS**, Tommy C. Beavers served with distinction and was an invaluable resource to his peers, leaving a legacy of knowledge, expertise, and leadership; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the National Council on Teacher Retirement, the Board of Trustees and the staff of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma, with deep sadness and sense of loss, extend their heartfelt sympathy to Tommy's wife, Verda, their two daughters, Shannon and Kayelyn, and six grandchildren, Andrew, Addison, Will, Emma, Tate, and Evan; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be presented to his wife, Mrs. Verda Beavers, and be included in the proceedings of the 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, 2009.

Submitted by: Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma



**IN MEMORIAM**  
**F.E. “FRITZ” STANEK**

**WHEREAS**, Fritz Stanek served as a Trustee of the Omaha School Employees’ Retirement System as a representative of the Board of Education for 21 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Fritz supported the improvement of benefits for both the active and retired membership while working to preserve the actuarial soundness of the System; and

**WHEREAS**, Fritz was serving his 34<sup>th</sup> year on the Omaha Public Schools Board of Education, having served three years as President of the Board of Education during his tenure; and

**WHEREAS**, Fritz was an active participant in the National Council on Teacher Retirement throughout his service on the Board of Trustees and was in regular attendance at the annual conventions; and

**WHEREAS**, Fritz was retired from Stanek & Associates, after a full career of meeting the financial security needs of Omaha area residents, particularly the education community; and

**WHEREAS**, F.E. “Fritz” Stanek passed away on May 17, 2009; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the National Council on Teacher Retirement extends its sincere sympathy and condolences to his wife, Alice, and other family members; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that NCTR expresses its appreciation for Fritz’s contributions to the Council over the years and for his dedicated years of service on the Omaha Public School Board and the Omaha School Employees’ Retirement System; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be presented to Alice and be included in the proceedings of the 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, 2009.

Submitted by: Omaha School Employees’ Retirement System



## **IN MEMORIAM IRIS F. WOLFSON**

**WHEREAS**, Iris F. Wolfson was a passionate and dedicated member of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System Board for nearly 17 years following her 1992 election by the New York State Board of Regents; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Wolfson served with distinction as the Retirement Board's vice president from January 2006 until her untimely passing in June 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, she was a long-time chair of the Board's Audit and Accounting Committee and worked tirelessly with System staff to forge fiscally responsible operating budgets that provided the System with the resources to operate efficiently while providing superior customer service befitting one of the nation's 10 largest public pension funds; and,

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Wolfson was an enthusiastic supporter of Board members and staff and the work they performed for the benefit of the System's more than 400,000 members and 820 employers; and,

**WHEREAS**, she established a legacy of trust, respect and leadership while serving numerous civic, professional and educational organizations, including the National Council on Teacher Retirement, for which she was chair of the Resolutions Committee and a long-time delegate, and the New York State School Boards Association, for which she served as treasurer; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Wolfson endeavored throughout her career in public service to provide the highest quality public education to New York State children while ensuring taxpayers were not unduly burdened; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the National Council on Teacher Retirement and the New York State Teachers' Retirement System Board join with staff to honor Iris F. Wolfson for her distinguished service to these organizations and the many others she served with energy and compassion during her many years of public service; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be included in the proceedings of the Retirement Board meeting held July 29, 2009, and in the proceedings of the 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, 2009.

Submitted by: New York State Teachers' Retirement System



## **IN APPRECIATION CAROL F. ACKERSON**

**WHEREAS**, Carol F. Ackerson, retired, having served as President, Vice-President and Trustee of the Minnesota Teachers Retirement Association; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Ackerson served on the Board of Trustees with distinction from 1987 through 2003 as an active member representative and again from 2005 through 2009 as the retired member representative; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Ackerson served the students of the New Ulm School District for 41 years as an English teacher with professionalism and dedication; and

**WHEREAS**, during Ms. Ackerson's tenure on the TRA Board, the Minnesota TRA experienced substantial growth in assets and major enhancements in benefit administration and customer service; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Ackerson was an active participant of NCTR as a delegate during her board service; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the National Council on Teacher Retirement expresses its best wishes and appreciation to Ms. Ackerson for her dedicated service to the Minnesota education community, the Minnesota Teachers Retirement Association, and the people of Minnesota; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be presented to Carol F. Ackerson and be included in the proceedings of the 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, 2009.

Submitted by: Minnesota Teachers Retirement Association



## **IN APPRECIATION CURTIS D. HUTCHENS**

**WHEREAS**, Curtis D. Hutchens, having served as President, Vice-President and Trustee of the Minnesota Teachers Retirement Association; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Hutchens served on the Board of Trustees with distinction as an active member representative from 1987 through 1995 and again from 1997 through 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Hutchens served the students of the St. Cloud school district as an elementary teacher for 37 years with professionalism and dedication; and

**WHEREAS**, during Mr. Hutchens tenure on the TRA Board, the Minnesota TRA experienced substantial growth in assets and major enhancements in benefit administration and customer service; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Hutchens was an active participant of NCTR during his board service and served for many years on its Trustee Education Committee and chaired its Program and Issues Development Committee; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the National Council on Teacher Retirement expresses its best wishes and appreciation to Mr. Hutchens for his dedicated service to the Minnesota education community, the Minnesota Teachers Retirement Association, and the people of Minnesota; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be presented to Curtis D. Hutchens and be included in the proceedings of the 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, 2009.

Submitted by: Minnesota Teachers Retirement Association



## **IN APPRECIATION MATTI S. PALLUCONI**

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Matti S. Palluconi served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma from January 22, 2001, through May 27, 2009, distinguishing herself as an outstanding and dedicated leader and an authority on pension fund management in Oklahoma; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Matti S. Palluconi served in many capacities, including the positions of Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma, also serving as a member of the Investment Committee and the Personnel Committee, during which time she discharged the responsibilities of those offices in a most excellent manner, which won her honor and distinction; and

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Matti S. Palluconi served the People of Oklahoma, the Teachers' Retirement System, and the public schools, colleges and universities of the state of Oklahoma with honor and distinction during her tenure, for which her superb contributions are gratefully recognized; and

**WHEREAS**, during the years that Mrs. Matti S. Palluconi served as a member of the Board of Trustees, the Retirement System did experience tremendous growth and maintained financial stability, which have been and will continue to be of great benefit to the citizenry and educators of our great State; and

**WHEREAS**, through the foresight, wisdom, leadership and judgment of this outstanding person, the general welfare of all was advanced; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma, in formal meeting herein assembled, extends its grateful appreciation to Mrs. Matti S. Palluconi for her many splendid contributions made for the people of Oklahoma and for the advancement and growth of the Retirement System and vital management of its funds; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the National Council on Teacher Retirement expresses its best wishes and appreciation to Mrs. Matti S. Palluconi for her dedicated service to the Oklahoma education community, the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma, and the people of Oklahoma; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Mrs. Matti S. Palluconi and be included in the proceedings of the 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, 2009, and that this resolution be placed in the official files of the Board of Trustees as a permanent public record of the great state of Oklahoma as a tribute to this distinguished public servant.



Adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma, this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July 2009.

Submitted by: Teachers' Retirement System of Oklahoma



## **IN APPRECIATION PEGGY D. PRESTON**

**WHEREAS**, Mrs. Peggy D. Preston served as a member of the Board of Trustees of The Public School and Education Employee Retirement Systems of Missouri from July 1, 2000, until June 30, 2009; and both as Vice Chair and Chair during her tenure on the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, during the period of this tenure she ably served the interests of teachers and school support personnel of Missouri and the State of Missouri; and

**WHEREAS**, through her experience in public education and dedication as a teacher, she was able to lead and counsel wisely in the enactment of legislation and the formulation of policies and regulations bringing continued improvement in the retirement systems; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the National Council on Teacher Retirement expresses its appreciation to Mrs. Preston for her distinguished service to the Board of Trustees of The Public School and Education Employee Retirement Systems of Missouri; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be presented to Mrs. Preston and be included in the proceedings of the 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the National Council on Teacher Retirement, 2009.

Submitted by: The Public School Retirement System of Missouri



## **POLICY RESOLUTION MARKET REFORM**

**WHEREAS**, public pension plans, with combined assets of more than \$2.5 trillion, are significant long-term participants in global financial markets, with professionally managed, broadly diversified investment programs designed to achieve the best possible investment yields consistent with the protection of plan assets and the standards of prudence imposed upon funding fiduciaries; and

**WHEREAS**, such investment income historically has provided 70% to 80% of the overall funding of public pension plans, helping to ensure the retirement security of millions of public employees, retirees, and their families while reducing the financial support required by state and local taxpayers as well as plan participants; and

**WHEREAS**, sharp drops in global financial markets have produced significant losses for all investors, including public pension plans, who have shared in the recent extraordinary market decline; and

**WHEREAS**, this global economic crisis revealed significant gaps and weaknesses in the oversight and regulation of financial firms, markets and other institutions, such as credit rating agencies, that resulted in an unacceptable level of systemic risk and an inability to supervise, prevent, or otherwise appropriately address levels of risk as they developed, to the detriment of all investors; and

**WHEREAS**, investor confidence in the integrity of the overall financial system has seriously suffered as a consequence; and

**WHEREAS**, restoring trust in the viability of capital markets is critical to securing a sustainable recovery for the nation's economy as well as to maintaining the financial soundness of public pension plans and their continued ability to meet their long-term pension obligations; now therefore be it

**RESOLVED**, that the National Council on Teacher Retirement urges Congress and the Administration to act expeditiously to restore stability to the financial system by strengthening existing market regulatory structures, including the adequate funding thereof; addressing lapses, gaps and inconsistencies in regulatory coverage; providing increased and enforceable accountability to investors and expanding investor safeguards; and comprehensively addressing the measurement of and responses to systemic risk without unduly inhibiting market innovations; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the National Council on Teacher Retirement believes that a lack of adequate transparency has been one of the most significant factors in the economic collapse; that the responsible disclosure of (i) all trading activity related to financial



securities, (ii) participant accounting, (iii) credit rating agency methodologies and other activities, and (iv) counterparty exposure is essential in order to assess systemic risk and develop meaningful solutions to the problems such risk creates; and that any comprehensive and effective reform of the regulation of financial markets must therefore have enhanced transparency at every level as a core element; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the National Council on Teacher Retirement believes that credit rating agencies, on which investors rely for timely, accurate information needed to make informed investment decisions, have inherent conflicts of interest in their current compensation structure, and little legal liability for their ratings; that the credibility of the credit ratings issued by the rating agencies has been seriously diminished as a result; and that any comprehensive and effective reform of the regulation of financial markets therefore should provide for increased oversight of credit rating agencies with real standards of accountability to users, and should effectively address conflicts of interest, including aggressive enforcement of SEC rules prohibiting a credit rating agency from issuing a rating for an investment vehicle where the rating agency made recommendations about the structure of such investment product; and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that the National Council on Teacher Retirement believes that the current right of public pension plans to invest in the widest possible range of opportunities across all capital markets, consistent with their fiduciary standards and duties, is essential to public pension plans' ability to achieve the best possible investment returns for their participants and beneficiaries at the lowest risk, and should not be subject to Federal limitations or restrictions.

Submitted by: NCTR 2009 Legislative Committee

