

PROTECT OUR RETIREMENT: SAMPLE LETTER TOOLKIT

STEP 1

DATE

Dear Representative _____,

As a voter in your district, I am writing to express my strong opposition to any legislation that will take away retirement savings and health care benefits from Michigan's first responders.

STEP 2

Insert at least one of the following points:

- Serving as a police officer or firefighter is dangerous and physically strenuous work. Retiree health care is essential to protect our first responders and their families if they are hurt or killed in the line of duty.
- The average retirement age for firefighters and police officers is early 50s - which leaves a 10-15 year gap before they are eligible for Medicare. Also, many police officers and firefighters do not receive Social Security.
- A "one size fits all" approach will take away local control and hurt our communities. What works in one city may not work in a small rural township.

(Include a personal statement about how the union has helped your family's quality of life.)

This proposal will hurt working families who are already struggling to afford the basics, like food, gas, and prescription drugs.

The legislature should do the right thing and protect retirement savings and health care for all local public employees - including our nurses, police officers, and firefighters.

I urge you to please stick to the governor's task force plan and give it a chance to work.

STEP 3

Sincerely,

YOUR NAME

ADDRESS

ZIP CODE

EMAIL ADDRESS



COMPLETED SAMPLE LETTERS

November 27, 2017



DATE

Dear Representative XXXXXXXX,



GREETING

As a voter in your district, I am writing to express my strong opposition to any legislation that will take away retirement savings and health care benefits from Michigan's first responders.



INTRODUCTION

Serving as a police officer or firefighter is dangerous and physically strenuous work. Retiree health care is essential to protect our first responders and their families if they are hurt or killed in the line of duty.



KEY MESSAGE POINTS

This proposal will hurt working families who are already struggling to afford the basics, like food, gas, and prescription drugs.

The legislature should do the right thing and protect retirement savings and health care for all local public employees - including our nurses, police officers, and firefighters.

I urge you to please stick to the governor's task force plan and give it a chance to work.



CALL TO ACTION

Sincerely,



YOUR SIGNATURE

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE ZIP CODE

EMAIL ADDRESS



YOUR CONTACT INFO

