

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE**

Prefiled Resolution
(Final;Action)

FB.10.01 Resolution on the Need to Protect the Quality of Higher Education in the State of Illinois

Whereas, The State of Illinois has not been making its required contributions to SURS and the other public state pension plans, resulting in an unfunded pension liability of some \$90 billion;

Whereas, The faculty and staff of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign have continually paid their full share to the retirement system on a timely basis, and are *not* covered by Social Security, making SURS benefits their primary, and often sole, source of retirement income;

Whereas, The UIUC campus faculty ranks last among Big Ten universities in benefits (as a percentage of salaries);

Whereas, Significant reductions in pensions and other benefits will have a negative impact on the University's hiring and retention of faculty and staff.

Resolved, That the UIUC Senate calls upon the legislature and governor to recognize that:

- the loss, or inability to attract, quality faculty and staff will negatively impact university students and the overall quality and climate of higher education in Illinois;
- reductions in pensions and other benefits will effectively result in an unfunded mandate for higher education institutions, since employees will need higher salaries in order to supplement diminished benefits, further impacting recruitment, retention, and the higher education climate.

Resolved, That the Senate urges its members to transmit this resolution and the information herein to the campus and other interested communities.

Resolved, That the Clerk of the Senate communicate this resolution to the University of Illinois Board of Trustees, key members of UIUC administration, and area legislators.

Senate Committee on Faculty and Academic Staff Benefits

Rick Gorvett, Chair	Jane Barrett
Bettina Francis	Barclay Jones
Elizabeth Oyler	Ronald Peters
Xinlei Wang	Kenneth Andersen, <i>Ex officio</i>
James Davito, <i>Ex officio</i>	Cheryl Hahn, <i>Ex officio</i>
Wayne McClain, <i>Ex officio</i>	Judy Parker, <i>Ex officio</i>
H.F. Williamson, <i>Ex officio</i>	Karie Wolfson, <i>Ex officio</i>