



**RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION**  
**Chico Chapter 077**

**AUGUST 2022 NEWSLETTER**

**Mission Statement:**

*We are active and retired California public employees working together to maintain and improve the quality of the lives of our members by protecting and improving our earned retirement, medical, and other benefits.  
RPEA represents the rank and file retired public employees.*

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Chapter Website: [www.rpeachapter77.com](http://www.rpeachapter77.com)



**Summer Greetings!** We hope that you are having an enjoyable summer and staying cool during the triple-digit temperatures! **Reminder: There will be no RPEA Chapter 077 meeting in August. Our next meeting will be on Thursday, September 1.**

Hopefully, we will be able to resume in-person regular membership meetings by then. We will keep you updated about our upcoming meetings in the newsletter and [rpeachapter77.com](http://rpeachapter77.com) website. Stay tuned!



**RANDY CHEEK for CalPERS 2022**  
***“Experience We Can Trust”***

Randy Cheek is the RPEA endorsed candidate for the CalPERS Board Retiree seat. Randy protects our pensions every day and fights to make CalPERS more transparent as the Retired Public Employees Association’s Legislative Director. Randy stopped the steal of \$2 billion from CalPERS Members by Governor Schwarzenegger. Representing both school and State workers, Randy fought to protect public employee’s salaries, rights, and benefits.

When Randy saw his fellow Vietnam Veterans suffering from Agent Orange, he successfully fought to help them get their VA benefits. Randy’s unwavering commitment equals real results!

**He asks the right questions and gets results!**  
[Randycheekforcalpers2022.com](http://Randycheekforcalpers2022.com)

**MESSAGE FROM ROGER KLAVES**

Area II Director (Email written June 24, 2022)

**Monthly Ramblings from your Area II AD**

Not much from Area II! This is mostly PERS stuff as noted in a recent RPEA Zoom meeting and the *Sac Bee*.

- The Governor has paid 3.2 Billion towards PERS' unfunded debt
- Two PERS high dollar PPO health policies will go up about 17 percent next year. If you're on one, you should get a notice.
- SB 386, the Bill sponsored by PERS, that would lessen requirements for PERS to publish some of their workings on their investments, is still around but is not expected to go anywhere this year.
- AB1173, a Bill that would have forced PERS to divest from oil and gas stocks, has been dropped.
- As of June 21, 2022, PERS Market Value stood at 436.39 Billion dollars.
- An ex-CHP officer, sentenced to and paroled from prison for four felonies including two for molesting his daughters, recently had his pension reinstated although at a somewhat reduced rate. The reason for reinstatement was because the offenses were not job related.

RPEA's Randy Cheek has qualified for the upcoming election on the PERS Board for the retiree position. You'll get a notice and ballot in the mail. Be sure to VOTE for Randy Cheek for this position. Opposing candidates have mounted large campaigns so his vote is really needed.

Lastly, I have determined that it is time for me to step aside from my “official” duties for RPEA including Area Director, Assistant Area Director, and committee memberships (20 years including chapter stuff). Henceforth, I shall merely be a regular person member of Chico chapter 077 since I live in Chico. This will be effective July 1, 2022. Thank you for putting up with my monthly mumblings, such as they have been. Abe Bailly anticipates returning as Area II Director at the conclusion of General Assembly in September. He will be in dire need of an AAD for the Butte County area. Please consider this opportunity to help him out!

*Roger*

A BIG Thank You to Roger for being our Area II Director and Assistant Area II Director! We have also appreciated his contributions to our newsletters. We are happy that you’ve joined our Chapter 077, Roger!

LEGISLATIVE RERPORT – By Mary Kowta

Do you have the urge to communicate with our State legislators, to tell them a thing or two, or thank them for their efforts?

State Senate, District 4: Jim Nielsen

Address: 2635 Forest Ave., Suite 110, Chico, CA 95928  
Or  
State Capitol, Room 5064, Sacramento, CA 95814  
Phone: 530-879-7424 or 916-651-4004  
Email: [senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov](mailto:senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov)

State Assembly, District 3: James Gallagher

Address: 2060 Talbert Dr., Suite 110, Chico, CA 95928  
Or  
State Capitol, Suite 3147, Sacramento, CA 94249-0003  
Phone: 530-895-4217 or 916-319-2003

As I began to prepare these remarks (7/16), I glanced at the E-R sports page and there was Governor Newsom, discussing UCLA’s move to Big Ten after a century of PAC 12. He was quite miffed; so, being basically naive about such matters, I called Our RPEA friend and fellow UCLA alum and fan, Keith Johnson, to see what this was all about. Keith informed me that it is "a complex situation, but money is the answer to my question." Money \$\$\$\$ seems to be the theme to much of the news these days.

An article in the *Wall Street Journal* (7/16) states that inflation rose to 9.1% in June; and gas, groceries, and housing are all pricier than a year ago, but we hardly need the WSJ to tell us that! On the other hand, smart phones, TVs, and European vacations are cheaper. Californians will receive checks, based on income, as part of the budget surplus to compensate, probably at the end of the summer.

Legislature

At this time, there are several bills in progress that concern long term care facilities, residential care facilities, and skilled nursing facilities. These are being monitored by RPEA. Be sure to read your RPEA issue for legislative tracking. Let’s face it, most of us seniors are at risk and may need medical intervention at some point. The *San Francisco Chronicle* (7/17) has an opinion piece by Dr. Dipti Barot, “*When Even a Fall is Life or Death*”. He writes of the Season of Parental Falling. This will strike a chord with many of us. I recommend it!

Our lawmakers have made moves to respond to the recent Supreme Court decisions which concern reproductive issues and safety of Californians. There is a bill in the works which will add restrictions to “concealed carry” permits and an amendment to the California State

Constitution affirming reproductive freedom which has been just drafted by the legislators (see below).

2022 Ballot Propositions (as of 7/15/2022)

Proposition 1

This proposition asks Californians to vote to change Article 1 of the State Constitution to provide the right to reproductive freedom. This change was referred by the lawmakers.

Proposition 26

This would legalize sports betting at American Indian casinos and at licensed race tracks in California.

Proposition 27

This legalizes mobile sports betting and dedicates revenue to homelessness and to tribal economic development.

Proposition 28

This proposition seeks funding for art and music education in public schools.

Proposition 29

This revisits requirements for personnel and staffing in dialysis clinics. (Twice defeated)

Proposition 30

This effort would increase by 1.75 % taxation on personal income over\$2 million and dedicate the revenue to zero emissions, vehicle projects, and wildfire prevention.

Proposition 31

This refers to the ban on sale of flavored tobacco. This is a referendum that seeks to invalidate the current ban.

The plastic waste initiative has been withdrawn in light of the Governor’s bold plan for the State to make a drastic reduction in single use plastic items and packaging material in the years ahead.

The “Big Bucks” efforts are 26 and 27; billions are behind these propositions. Prop 31, of course, has “Big Tobacco” support; millions had been invested as early as January. We will continue to follow the news from Secretary of State Shirley Webber’s office update along the way.

Best wishes for the warm days ahead. Stay well and wear your mask in indoor spaces where there are lots of people. Here is a recipe for fake homemade pickles: Save juice from a favorite jar of cucumber pickles; add fresh firm cucumber pieces and refrigerate!

Mary