



RETIRED PUBLIC EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION Chico Chapter 077

December 2021 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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RPEA CHAPTER 077

DRIVE-THRU HOLIDAY BOXED LUNCH

Curbside
PICK-UP



WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15 – 11:30 AM

**MANZANITA PLACE
(CHICO ELKS LODGE)**

“Grab ‘n Go” Boxed Lunch
or
Dine-in and Socialize

The Board has made special arrangements for our members to come to the Elks to pick up a complimentary boxed lunch to enjoy during the holiday season. For those members who feel comfortable socializing with our members, they can stay and eat their boxed lunch out on the patio. Drive to the front of the Elks, and a Board member will deliver your boxed lunch to your car. You can drive on home afterward, or you can park your car and come inside with your boxed lunch to join us on the patio! A few surprises are being planned! We want to help our members celebrate the holidays, but we also want to keep everyone safe during these challenging times. The Board felt that this was a nice alternative to our traditional Christmas luncheon.

It is important that you RSVP so that we will know how many boxed lunches to order. You can respond by calling Mary Kowta (530-342-6759) or emailing sharonsalcidofromchico@gmail.com. Confirm if you're bringing any guests and also indicate if you're eating your boxed lunch at home or eating it on the Elks' patio. Spouses and guests are welcome! Reservation Deadline: Friday, December 10.

MESSAGE FROM ROGER KLAVES

Area II Director (Email written November 1, 2021)

Howdy! Things are rather quiet at this time. That's good because the holidays are coming up, and we can possibly look forward to some better times ahead. Long Term Care is still in the mix. A final settlement is now set for June 8, 2022 for that. PERS is still looking for another plan that might fly in place of the current one. Our Area II could use an Assistant Area Director because Ernie Sandoval has had to retire because of his health. We, of course, wish him well. If anyone is interested, let me know.

The legislature is out until the first of the year. You should have received your recent state newsletter. There's some good stuff in there! Be sure to check out the RPEA website. Any recent news which is not in the printed newsletter is at the website. Have a meaningful Thanksgiving.

Roger

A link for “Approval of Health Benefits Program Proposals for 2023 Plan Year” has been added to the rpeachapter77.com website. After you get on the website, you can access all of this information by clicking on the *Health Benefits* link. This link was provided by Al Raitt, and the information was presented to the Board at its November 17 meeting.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION (Volunteers for Public Service)

RPEA would like its members to document their hours of volunteering, and there is a “RPEA – CA Gives Back Volunteer Form” that can be downloaded from the rpea.com website in PDF format and filled out for the various activities in which you volunteer. It includes a long list of activities that can be included in your volunteer public service.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT – By Mary Kowta

News from Sacramento

If you were concerned over the disappearance from public life of Governor Newsom, no worries! He decided to celebrate Halloween with his kiddos and sent the Lt. Governor off to the climate conference in Glasgow. He has had a very hectic few months, but he is back on the job now, probably reviewing some of the two-year bills that the lawmakers will be re-working when they return to the Capitol on Jan. 3.

The Federal government recently stated that California is ineligible for about \$12 Billion in public transit funding because of a dispute over pension law changes that affected transit employees over a decade ago. The Governor and Senators Feinstein and Padilla are talking to the US Secretary of Labor, with high hopes that the problem can be solved, and the funds will be forth-coming, eventually. (11/12 *Sac Bee*, *ER*).

Redistricting maps released on Nov. 11 by the California Redistricting Commission, show that Assemblyman James Gallagher may no longer be representing Butte County if the new draft is approved. He has been a vocal supporter of Butte County ever since the Camp Fire, when not involved in legal moves and other irritants toward the Governor. His Assembly pal, Kevin Kiley, is contemplating a run for the Governor’s job. He was in the large group of hopefuls who wanted to recall Governor Newsom. More on redistricting after the maps are finalized!

Mary

The California Legislative Process

The process of government by which bills are considered and laws enacted is commonly referred to as the Legislative Process. The California State Legislature is made up of two houses: the Senate and the Assembly. There are 40 Senators and 80 Assembly Members representing the people of the State of California. **Idea:** All legislation begins as an idea or concept. The process begins when a Senator or Assembly

Member decides to author a bill. **The Author:** A Legislator sends the idea for the bill to the Legislative Counsel where it is drafted into the actual bill. The draft of the bill is returned to the Legislator for introduction. If the author is a Senator, the bill is introduced in the Senate. If the author is an Assembly Member, the bill is introduced in the Assembly. No bill may be acted upon until 30 days has passed from the date of its introduction. **Committee Hearings:** Bills are assigned to policy committees according to the subject area of the bill. Bills that require the expenditure of funds must also be heard in the fiscal committee (Appropriations). Each house has a number of policy committees and a fiscal committee. During the committee hearing, the author presents the bill to the committee and testimony can be heard in support or opposition of the bill. The committee then votes by passing the bill, passing the bill as amended, or defeating the bill. Bills can be amended several times. Letters of support or opposition are important and should be mailed to the author and committee members before the bill is scheduled to be heard in committee. It takes a majority vote of the full committee membership for a bill to be passed by the committee. **Second and Third Reading:** Bills passed by committees are read a second time on the floor in the house of origin and then assigned to third reading. When a bill is read the third time it is explained by the author, discussed by the Members and voted on by a roll call vote. Bills that require an appropriation or that take effect immediately, generally require 27 votes in the Senate and 54 votes in the Assembly to be passed. Other bills generally require 21 votes in the Senate and 41 votes in the Assembly. If a bill is defeated, the Member may seek reconsideration and another vote. **Repeat Process in Other House:** Once the bill has passed in the house of origin, it proceeds to the other house where the procedure is repeated. **Resolution of Differences:** If a bill is amended in the second house, it must go back to the house of origin for concurrence, which is agreement on the amendments. If agreement cannot be reached, the bill is referred to a two house conference committee to resolve differences. Three members of the committee are from the Senate and three are from the Assembly. If a compromise is reached, the bill is returned to both houses for a vote. **Governor:** If both houses approve a bill, it then goes to the Governor. The Governor has three choices. The Governor can sign the bill into law, allow it to become law without his or her signature, or veto the bill. A governor’s veto can be overridden by a two thirds vote in both houses. Most bills go into effect on the first day of January of the next year unless a different operative date is specified in the legislation.

The above information was edited from the Official California Legislative Information website: www.leginfo.ca.gov/bil2lawx.html.

RPEA CHAPTER 077 HOLIDAY BOXED LUNCH EVENT A BIG SUCCESS!

Chapter 077 Board members made arrangements with the Chico Elks Lodge for a holiday boxed lunch event on December 15, and it was a big success! Members had the option of a “drive-thru” and taking their boxed lunch home with them, or they could come inside the Elks and enjoy their lunch inside the bar area that was privately reserved. The boxed lunch contained a turkey sandwich on a croissant, macaroni salad, a pickle, cranberry sauce, and a bag of chips. The Board members delivered the lunches to cars pulling up in front of the Elks and taking their lunches home, and about half of the members felt safer eating their lunches at home during these challenging times. It was wonderful having many members opting to eat indoors and socialize. The Elks’ bar area had a festive touch with the lovely decorated Christmas tree, and Christmas music added to the holiday ambiance. Everyone got a “goodie bag” in addition to their lunch, and it contained lots of treats including candy, cookies, a mandarin orange, trail mix, and candy cane. There were several prizes given to lucky participants who fell into certain categories (i.e. “First arrival,” First red car and green car to arrive, and other fun categories). The weather cooperated; and even though there was a light rain, the downpour of rain and wind didn’t begin until the luncheon ended. This special event helped enhance the holiday season for Chapter 077 members!

