



[MARCH 1, 2018](#)

## [MINNESOTA NEWS + OPINION](#)

### [Reps from Pew Charitable Trusts, South Dakota pension system speak at LCPR](#)

Minneapolis Committee of 13

The Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement on Mon., Feb. 19, heard testimony on a state public pension stress-testing analysis from researchers at the Pew Charitable Trusts. Also testifying was the executive director of the South Dakota Retirement System, a “hybrid defined benefit plan.

### [Minnesota Legislature returns with long agenda, short session](#)

Minnesota Public Radio News

DFL Senate Minority Leader Tom Bakk says money needs to be spent to bolster public employee pensions and to fix the state health department's problems with elder care oversight. But overall, Bakk, DFL-Cook, is warning his colleagues against spending too much. "I worry a little bit that we're going to ...

### [Candidates for Governor vie for Labor Support at State AFL-CIO Forum](#)

Workday Minnesota

They supported raising the minimum wage, expanding free access to higher education and protecting public pensions. Minnesota's next governor, they agreed, should get the state on track to a single-payer health care system, crack down on wage theft and make needed investments in infrastructure ...

## [NATIONAL NEWS + OPINION](#)

### [Retired Teachers Voice Opposition to Pension Overhaul](#)

U.S. News & World Report

Hundreds of retired public school teachers and their allies are pressuring Kentucky lawmakers not to pass a proposed public pension overhaul. Feb. 28, 2018, at 5:02 ... 2018, in Frankfort, Ky. Teachers and other public workers are upset about proposed changes to the state's struggling pension system.

### [US Public DB Plans Boost Funded Level to 73.1% in Q4](#)

Chief Investment Officer

The funded status of the 100 largest public defined benefit pension plans in the US improved by \$60 billion in the fourth quarter of 2017, bringing their funded level up to 73.1% from 71.6% at the end of the previous quarter, according to the consulting firm Milliman. In aggregate, the plans had investment ...

### [Slossberg says no more investing pension funds in gun manufacturing](#)

Milford Mirror

The Connecticut Education Association (CEA) and American Federation of Teachers Connecticut, Connecticut's two teachers' unions, have both expressed their support for Slossberg's efforts to keep public pension funds from being invested in gun stocks, according to a press release from Slossberg's ...

### [Long-term investors not phased by volatility – conference panel](#)

Pensions & Investments

Staying in markets during volatile periods and rebalancing are working for long-term investors like public pension funds, said panelists at the National Institute on Retirement Security conference in Washington on Tuesday. "Our window is infinity," said Thomas K. Lee, executive director and chief ...

### [Teacher Union Pensions Invest In Firearm And Ammunition Manufacturers](#)

The Daily Caller

We're in the business of making money for public education," he told TheDCNF in an interview. "If you're a fiduciary, you're responsible for investment returns, not to push my own personal agenda," Bradley stated. Teacher union pension investments from coast-to-coast have continued to buy stock in ...

## [Pension Funds Under Pressure To Sell Off Investments In Gun-Makers](#)

NPR

"I'm currently urging my colleagues to divest in retail and wholesale suppliers of weapons that are banned for possession or sale in the state of California," says State Treasurer John Chiang, who sits on the boards of his state's two largest pension funds — CalPERS for public employees and CalSTRS ...

## [State Street discloses it will engage with weapons manufacturers, distributors](#)

Pensions & Investments

"And we will also seek to ensure that any shareholder resources used to influence legislation and regulations, or fund other advocacy efforts is consistent with the company's public views. State Street spokesman Andrew Hopkins could not immediately provide additional information beyond the statement ...

## [US Public Pension Funds Breaking The Most Important Rule of Investing](#)

ValueWalk

It is a cardinal rule of investing that past performance does not dictate future returns. Nevertheless, it appears that a majority of public pension fund managers have forgotten this axiom in favor of speculative forecasting. According to a research paper from the Stanford Business School, it has been ...

## [Establishing dedicated funding sources could help public pension plans pay down liabilities](#)

texpers

Toll road fees. Lottery system revenue. Alcohol sales taxes. There are just a few ways some public pension funds are creating steady streams of revenue to help pay debt. It isn't a total fix, but establishing a tax or asset specifically for paying down a pension fund's liabilities would be beneficial, according ...

## [Public Pension Funded Ratio Rose in Q4: Milliman](#)

ThinkAdvisor

"While a lot of media attention has been paid to the recent market volatility in early February, it's not a reason to panic when it comes to public pensions," Becky Sielman, author of the Milliman index, said in a statement. "Equity gains and losses are typically smoothed out over a number of years when ...

## [Colorado teachers union, unlike Florida educators, isn't seeking to purge gun stocks from PERA fund](#)

The Denver Post

After Florida public school teachers this week called on their public pension fund to sell off its gun stocks in the wake of last week's mass shooting at a high school, a subsequent Bloomberg analysis found that at least a dozen public pensions around the country invest in U.S. gun manufacturers.

## [Should state pension plans invest in gunmakers?](#)

CBS News

As of December 31, public pension plans in Arizona, Louisiana, Michigan and Texas also held shares in Sturm Ruger, according to data from S&P Capital IQ. Two of the funds that own the company's stock -- The Teacher Retirement System of Texas and the Public Employees Retirement Association of ...

## [Montana Rep. Offers \\$700 Million State Public Pension Solution](#)

Chief Investment Officer

How should Montana fix its the \$700 million per year problem that two of its public pensions are estimated to cost the state? One representative has some suggestions. In an opinion piece with the Independent Record, Rep. Tom Burnett recommended the state's Teachers' Retirement System (TRS) and ...

## [Public Pensions Are Still Betting More Than Half of All Assets on Stocks](#)

Wall Street Journal

Public pension funds that lost hundreds of billions during the last financial crisis still face significant risk from one basic investment: stocks. That vulnerability came into focus earlier this month as markets descended into correction territory for the first time since February 2016. The California Public ...

## [Gap of \\$6.6B in state pension funding draws lawmakers' concern](#)

Alaska Dispatch News

Bill Walker proposed paying \$263 million into the pension system in the budget that starts in July. That's \$80 million more than the current budget. Since 2006, new public workers have a different retirement system and don't receive defined-benefit pensions. Instead, they receive a defined-contribution ...

## [Kentucky Senate President Shuts Down Bevin's 401\(k\) Proposal](#)

Chief Investment Officer

According to Kentucky.com, Senate President Robert Stivers declared that the state's public pension system reform will no longer carry several of Gov. Matt Bevin's controversial concepts. The rejected propositions

include the moving any existing or future employees from their defined benefits plan (DB) ...

### [State Pensions Need Reforms, Not Fewer Options](#)

Forbes

While there are disagreements about the size of these unfunded liabilities, one thing is clear: state and local public pensions are spiraling toward insolvency. Despite these problems, politicians across the country are placing restrictions on the assets that public pension funds can hold, which are only ...

### [Case Study Warns of Effect of Move From Public DB to Public DC](#)

PLANSPONSOR

The NIRS studied the case of Palm Beach, Florida, which it says offers “an important cautionary tale on the detrimental impacts of switching public employees from DB pensions to DC accounts.” In 2012, the Palm Beach Town Council closed its existing DB pension systems for all employees, including ...

### [Despite activist pressure on gun makers and sellers, Wall Street has a hard time dumping the gun ...](#)

CNBC

In 2015, New York City's public advocate called on TD Bank to stop providing financing to Smith & Wesson, and she asked the Securities and Exchange Commission to examine the gun maker's public disclosures about its products. She also urged the city's largest pension to sell its holdings of Walmart ...