



Taxpayers United of America

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Governor Steve Beshear
700 Capital Avenue, Suite 100
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

December 15, 2011

RE: Release of Public Employee Pension Information

Dear Governor Beshear,

I am Vice President of Taxpayers United of America (TUA), one of the largest taxpayer organizations in the U.S. I commend you for the exceptional job you have done reviving the economy of Kentucky by slashing government spending and balancing the budget.

In the past year, we of TUA have travelled to many states to research and publicize public employee pensions. We have often found that government pensions are higher than private sector salaries! In response to our FOIA requests, we have generally received the information requested, including the “Top 100” government salaries and the “Top 100” government pensions.

Some states have had a helpful attitude, while others have released data only after repeated requests. Sadly, one of the least cooperative states has been Kentucky.

In your Inaugural address statement, you said that you had put Kentucky’s “house in order.” Until the pension information is released, Kentuckians cannot know if their house is in fact, in order.

You said it will take “...political courage and the will to lay the foundation for a better tomorrow.” A great step toward that “better tomorrow,” would be to release Kentucky’s pension information, so that your citizens see clearly, the need for immediate reform.

You have the power to shine the light on public pensions. Please help us, help Kentucky.

It would be greatly appreciated if you would have your staff contact me, so we can discuss this matter.

Thank you,

Christina Tobin, Vice President