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## Information on Legislation Concerning ORP

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# Information on Legislation Concerning ORP

Submitted by: Patricia Walker

10/28/2009

## Question:

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What is latest information concerning the movement on legislation to allow faculty in ORP to choose to join TRS? The last we heard it was going to come up for a vote. Also, we were given a proposed guideline for what the cost of changing programs may be, has there been any decision on formatting a guideline for the actual costs?

## Rationale:

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Many faculty have an interest in allowing a one time option to reconsider their choice to be part of ORP. The decision was made before one had tenure, before one knew if they would remain at GSU throughout their working life. Throughout the Georgia system faculty are asking if this choice can be reconsidered upon receiving tenure, with a one time blanket option for all the faculty who did receive tenure since 1989 and were not allowed to revisit their choice between TRS and ORP. My second question concerns the guideline we were given to formulate what our cost would be to change retirement programs. This guideline was not yet definite, it was a suggested proposal that did not include whether the state or university system would absorb any part of the cost. The state senate had to meet to decide this and to determine what the actual cost would be to change programs.

## Response:

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10/30/2009: Paul Michaud, Director of Human Resources responded: As you may know, eligibility for membership in the ORP and TRS retirement programs and such matters are decisions made by the State of Georgia Legislators. The information that I am giving you can be found on the [www.TRSGa.com](http://www.TRSGa.com) website under Legislation. The action to allow individuals who chose the ORP to change to TRS was addressed in SB

257 and HB 740 in the 2009 Legislative Session. These are considered Fiscal Bills. Both of these Bills "died in committee" and will not be looked at during the 2010 Legislative Session. I do not know what the guidelines were that the State Legislators used in allowing these Bills to die. More information on the exact details on these bills can be found under the State of Georgia Website by looking up the Senate and House bills by their respective Bill numbers. But at this point and based on the information we have read, it is considered a dead bill and will not be addressed again this year.

Paul Michaud gave an update on where that is in terms of the legislature and what is likely to occur there.