

Registers,

Recently you received, via email, an open letter to the members of the County Officials Association of Tennessee (COAT) expressing concerns regarding action taken by the COAT board addressing certain proposed changes in the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System (TCRS). These legislative changes, which passed in the General Assembly this year, were optional for any county to adopt. None were mandatory for any county.

Additionally, it is alleged these changes "put in jeopardy the benefits of current employees". We have been assured by the Treasurer of the State of Tennessee, David Lillard, that this is not correct. No current employee in the TCRS will be effected at all.

Sumner County Clerk and COAT past president Bill Kemp represents our association on the TCRS board. He has assured us the TCRS is in sound financial condition and he understood the need for the changes made by the legislature this session.

COAT will continue to monitor any legislation affecting any changes in TCRS when the legislature convenes next January. The protection of your employees and their future is important.

Jay West
COAT Executive Director