

FINANCIAL REPORT  
SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
JUNE 30, 2023

SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA

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December 21, 2023

Honorable Patrick Page Cortez  
President of the Senate, State of Louisiana  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

#### ***Opinions***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Senate, State of Louisiana, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Senate, State of Louisiana's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Senate, State of Louisiana, as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### ***Basis for Opinions***

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Senate, State of Louisiana, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

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## ***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Senate, State of Louisiana's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

## ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Senate, State of Louisiana's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Senate, State of Louisiana's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identify during the audit.

### ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and other required supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

### ***Supplementary Information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Senate, State of Louisiana's basic financial statements. The supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

### ***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 21, 2023, on our consideration of the Senate, State of Louisiana's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Senate, State of Louisiana's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Senate, State of Louisiana's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

  
New Orleans, Louisiana

SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Management's discussion and analysis of the Senate, State of Louisiana's (Senate) financial performance presents a narrative overview and analysis of the Senate's financial activities for the year ended June 30, 2023. This document focuses on the current year's activities, resulting changes, and currently known facts in comparison with the prior year's information. This analysis should be read in conjunction with the basic financial statements, which follow this section.

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

- The Senate's increase in net position of \$7,629,200 was mainly due to an increase in State appropriations.
- The general revenues of the Senate were \$25,785,260, which is an increase of \$3,968,729, or 18.2%.
- The other financing sources and uses of the Senate were \$1,998,602, which is an increase of \$172,176 or 9.4%, due to an increase in transfers in from the Legislative Budgetary Control Council during the year.
- The total expenses of the Senate were \$20,154,662 which is an increase of \$9,356,836 or 86.7%, due primarily to increases in pension and other postemployment benefits expenses.

**OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

This report consists of three sections: management's discussion and analysis (this section), the basic financial statements, and required supplementary information. Management's discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Senate's basic financial statements. The basic financial statements comprise three components: (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains additional information to supplement the basic financial statements, such as required supplementary information.

**Government-wide Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the Senate's finances in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

The Statement of Net Position presents information on the Senate's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, with the difference reported as net position. This statement is designed to display the financial position of the Senate. Over time, increases or decreases in net position help determine whether the Senate's financial position is improving or deteriorating.

The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the Senate's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. Regardless of when cash is affected, all changes in net

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MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

**OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)**

**Government-wide Financial Statements (Continued)**

position are reported when the underlying transactions occur. As a result, transactions may be included that will not affect cash until future fiscal periods.

**Fund Financial Statements**

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Senate uses a single fund to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related laws and regulations. Within the basic financial statements, fund financial statements focus on the Senate's only fund, the general fund.

The Senate uses only one fund type, the governmental fund. The governmental fund is used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating the Senate's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of the governmental fund financial statements is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. Both the governmental fund Balance Sheet and the governmental fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between the governmental fund and the governmental activities.

**Notes to the Financial Statements**

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

**Other Information**

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information concerning the Senate's budgetary comparison, proportionate share of the total collective other postemployment benefits liability, proportionate share of the net pension liability, and pension contributions.

Following the required supplementary information is other supplementary information concerning the Senate's payments to Senators for per diem and other compensation that further explains and supports the information in the financial statements.

SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF GOVERNMENT-WIDE ACTIVITIES**

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of the Senate, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources exceeded assets and deferred outflows of resources by \$31,991,086 at the close of the most recent fiscal year. Included in the Senate's net position is its net investment in capital assets. These assets are not available for future spending.

The following presents the condensed comparative statements of net position of the Senate:

**CONDENSED COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION  
JUNE 30, 2023 AND 2022**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
<b><u>Assets:</u></b>				
Current assets	\$ 21,290,287	\$ 15,977,194	\$ 5,313,093	33.3%
Capital assets, net	400,191	267,985	132,206	49.3%
Right of use assets, net	101,107	141,550	(40,443)	(28.6%)
Total assets	<u>21,791,585</u>	<u>16,386,729</u>	<u>5,404,856</u>	33.0%
<b><u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u></b>	<u>14,126,446</u>	<u>13,823,354</u>	<u>303,092</u>	2.2%
<b><u>Liabilities:</u></b>				
Current liabilities	688,148	1,135,621	(447,473)	(39.4%)
Long-term liabilities	51,005,008	44,058,516	6,946,492	15.8%
Total liabilities	<u>51,693,156</u>	<u>45,194,137</u>	<u>6,499,019</u>	14.4%
<b><u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u></b>	<u>16,215,961</u>	<u>24,636,232</u>	<u>(8,420,271)</u>	(34.2%)
<b><u>Net Position:</u></b>				
Net investment in capital assets	394,822	263,538	131,284	49.8%
Unrestricted	(32,385,908)	(39,883,824)	7,497,916	18.8%
Total net position (deficit)	<u>\$ (31,991,086)</u>	<u>\$ (39,620,286)</u>	<u>\$ 7,629,200</u>	19.3%

Total assets of the Senate increased by \$5,404,856, or 33.0%. The increase in total assets is attributable to a larger amount of cash being held at year-end. The Senate has \$21,216,617 in cash at June 30, 2023, while there was \$15,907,230 in cash at June 30, 2022. The increase can also be attributed to an increase of \$132,206 in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation.

SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF GOVERNMENT-WIDE ACTIVITIES (Continued)**

Total liabilities of the Senate increased by \$6,499,019, or 14.4%. The increase in total liabilities is attributable to increases in net pension liabilities. Net pension liabilities increased by \$7,777,442. The LASERS net pension liability was primarily responsible for the increase in net pension liabilities as it increased \$7,752,657.

The following presents the condensed comparative statements of activities of the Senate:

**CONDENSED COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2023 AND 2022**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>Change</u>	<b>Percentage <u>Change</u></b>
General revenues	\$ 25,785,260	\$ 21,816,531	\$ 3,968,729	18.2%
Expenses	20,154,662	10,797,826	9,356,836	86.7%
Other financing sources (uses)	1,998,602	1,826,426	172,176	9.4%
Change in net position	<u>\$ 7,629,200</u>	<u>\$ 12,845,131</u>	<u>\$ (5,215,931)</u>	40.6%

The statement of activities reflects a positive change for the year. Net position increased by \$7,629,200 in 2023, compared to an increase of \$12,845,131 in 2022. Expenses increased by \$9,356,836, or 86.7%, in the current year. The increase in expenses can be attributed primarily to increases in OPEB expense and pension expense related to the changes in the OPEB payables and net pension liabilities in the current year.

**CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION**

The Senate's investment in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, as of June 30, 2023, is \$394,822. The investment in capital assets includes office furniture and equipment, computer equipment, vehicles, and right of use assets. The total increase in capital assets for the current fiscal year was 49.3%. The increase was due primarily to property transferred in from the Legislative Budgetary Control Council during the current year. The total decrease in right of use assets for the current fiscal year was 28.6%. The decrease was due primarily to an increase in depreciation expense on the right of use assets.

The Senate has no long-term debt outstanding at year-end. However, there are long-term liabilities related to lease liability, other postemployment benefits, net pension liability, and compensated absences.

**BUDGET ANALYSIS**

A comparison of budget to actual operations is presented in the accompanying required supplementary information. Although the Senate was over budget for professional services and capital outlay, total expenditures were under budget by \$3,204,719.

SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

**ECONOMIC OUTLOOK**

The Senate's fiscal year 2024 budget was approved with an approximate 2.81% increase in State General Fund Appropriation from the prior fiscal year.

**CONTACTING THE SENATE'S MANAGEMENT**

This audit report is designed to provide a general overview of the Senate and to demonstrate the Senate's accountability for its finances. If you have any questions about this report or need additional information, please contact the Senate, State of Louisiana, P.O. Box 44305, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804.

SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCE SHEET / STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
JUNE 30, 2023

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Adjustments*</u>	<u>Statement of Net Position</u>
<b>ASSETS:</b>			
Cash in bank	\$ 21,216,617	\$ -	\$ 21,216,617
Due from other legislative agencies	63,776	-	63,776
Other receivables	9,894	-	9,894
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	-	400,191 (1)	400,191
Right of use assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	-	101,107 (2)	101,107
Total Assets	<u>21,290,287</u>	<u>501,298</u>	<u>21,791,585</u>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES:</b>			
Deferred outflows related to pensions	-	6,895,806 (2)	6,895,806
Deferred outflows related to OPEB	-	7,230,640 (2)	7,230,640
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>-</u>	<u>14,126,446</u>	<u>14,126,446</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 21,290,287</u>		
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>			
Accounts payable	\$ 202,834	-	202,834
Accrued salaries and related benefits	281,553	-	281,553
Compensated absences:			
Current portion	-	162,524 (2)	162,524
Noncurrent portion	-	1,350,841 (2)	1,350,841
Lease liability:			
Current portion	-	41,237 (2)	41,237
Noncurrent portion	-	65,239 (2)	65,239
OPEB payable	-	19,157,779 (2)	19,157,779
Net pension liability	-	30,431,149 (2)	30,431,149
Total Liabilities	<u>484,387</u>	<u>51,208,769</u>	<u>51,693,156</u>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:</b>			
Deferred inflows related to pensions	-	187,194 (2)	187,194
Deferred inflows related to OPEB	-	16,028,767 (2)	16,028,767
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>-</u>	<u>16,215,961</u>	<u>16,215,961</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE/NET POSITION:</b>			
Assigned	20,671,144	(20,671,144)	-
Unassigned	134,756	(134,756)	-
Total Fund Balance	<u>20,805,900</u>		
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	<u>\$ 21,290,287</u>		
<b>NET POSITION:</b>			
Net investment in capital assets		394,822	394,822
Unrestricted		<u>(32,385,908)</u>	<u>(32,385,908)</u>
TOTAL NET POSITION (DEFICIT)		<u>\$ (31,991,086)</u>	<u>\$ (31,991,086)</u>

\*Explanations:

- (1) Capital assets and right of use assets used in governmental activities are not current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the General Fund.
- (2) Long-term liabilities, such as compensated absences, lease liability, net pension liability, and other postemployment benefits, and the deferred inflows and deferred outflows related to those long-term liabilities, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the General Fund.

See accompanying notes.

SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,  
AND CHANGES IN THE FUND BALANCE / STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Adjustments*</u>	<u>Statement of Activities</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES:</b>			
Personnel services	\$ 19,022,207	\$ (1,734,506) (1)	\$ 17,287,701
Travel	278,848	-	278,848
Operating services	1,871,367	(44,974) (3)	1,826,393
Supplies	94,331	-	94,331
Professional services	229,533	-	229,533
Telephone	105,360	-	105,360
Printing	80,888	-	80,888
Capital outlay	337,918	(226,553) (2)	111,365
Depreciation - capital assets	-	94,347 (2)	94,347
Depreciation - right of use assets	-	40,443 (2)	40,443
Interest - lease liability	-	5,453 (3)	5,453
Total Expenditures/Expenses	<u>22,020,452</u>	<u>(1,865,790)</u>	<u>20,154,662</u>
<b>GENERAL REVENUES:</b>			
State appropriations	25,694,294	-	25,694,294
Interest	46,468	-	46,468
Other income	44,229	269 (1)	44,498
Total General Revenues	<u>25,784,991</u>	<u>269</u>	<u>25,785,260</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>3,764,539</u>	<u>(3,764,539)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):</b>			
Interagency transfers in	<u>1,998,602</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,998,602</u>
Total Other Financing Sources	<u>1,998,602</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,998,602</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over expenditures/expenses and other financing sources (uses)	5,763,141	(5,763,141)	-
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	-	7,629,200	7,629,200
<b>FUND BALANCE/NET POSITION (DEFICIT):</b>			
Beginning of year	<u>15,042,759</u>	<u>(54,663,045)</u>	<u>(39,620,286)</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 20,805,900</u>	<u>\$ (52,796,986)</u>	<u>\$ (31,991,086)</u>

\*Explanations:

- (1) Expenses and revenues of long-term obligations for compensated absences, leases, pension plans, and other postemployment benefits reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the General Fund.
- (2) Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense.
- (3) Principal payments on lease liabilities are reported in the governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the payments are not reported as expenditures as they reduce lease liabilities.

See accompanying notes.

SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2023

NATURE OF OPERATIONS:

The Louisiana State Senate (the Senate) is a part of the legislative branch of government created under Article III of the 1974 Louisiana Constitution.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) promulgates accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and reporting standards for state and local governments. These principles are found in the *Codification of the Governmental Accounting and Reporting Guidelines*. The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with such principles.

Financial Reporting Entity:

The application of Section 2100 of the GASB Codification defines the governmental reporting entity (in relation to the Senate, State of Louisiana) to be the State of Louisiana. The accompanying financial statements of the Senate, State of Louisiana, contain sub-account information of the General Fund of the State of Louisiana. Annually, the State of Louisiana issues general purpose financial statements, which include the activity contained in the accompanying financial statements. However, the activity may be presented or classified differently due to perspective differences. The Senate, State of Louisiana, has no fiduciary funds or component units.

Fund Accounting:

The Senate, State of Louisiana, uses fund accounting (separate set of self-balancing accounts) to reflect the sources and uses of available resources and the budgetary restrictions placed on those funds by the Louisiana Legislature. The Senate, State of Louisiana, has only a General Fund supported by an appropriation from the State of Louisiana used to account for all of the Senate, State of Louisiana's activities, including the acquisition of capital assets and the servicing of long-term liabilities.

Basis of Accounting:

Within the accompanying statements, the General Fund column of the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities reports all activities of the Senate, using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered available when they are collected within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. Management considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 45 days of the end of the current fiscal period. However, as management considers it available regardless of when received, the legislative appropriation is recorded during the year, and for the year, the appropriation is made, and interest and other revenues are

SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2023

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (Continued)

Basis of Accounting: (Continued)

recorded when earned. Expenditures are recorded when a liability is incurred, as in accrual accounting. However, compensated absences, leases, pension costs, and other postemployment benefits (OPEB) costs are recorded when payment is due.

The General Fund column is adjusted to create a Statement of Net Position and a Statement of Activities. Within this column, amounts are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

Cash in Banks:

The Senate defines cash as interest-bearing demand deposits. Under state law, the Senate may deposit funds within a fiscal agent bank organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana and designated by the presiding officer of the Senate. These deposits (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or similar federal security or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The fair market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent.

Capital Assets:

The accompanying Statement of Net Position reflects furniture, fixtures, and equipment used by the Senate, State of Louisiana, and funded by legislative appropriation, in daily operations. Those assets are recorded at cost.

The accompanying statements do not include the value of land and buildings provided without cost to the Senate. Those assets are recorded with the annual financial statements of the State of Louisiana.

Capital assets with acquisition costs of \$5,000 or greater are capitalized, recorded at cost, and are depreciated using the straight-line method of allocating costs over the following useful lives:

Computer equipment	5 - 7 years
Office furniture and equipment	5 - 7 years
Vehicles	5 years

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add value to an asset or materially extend the life of an asset are not capitalized.

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1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (Continued)

Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources:

A deferred outflow of resources represents a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expenditure/expense) until that future time.

A deferred inflow of resources represents an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period and therefore will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that future time.

Budgetary Practices:

The Senate is required to submit to the members of the Legislative Budgetary Control Council an estimate of the financial requirements of the ensuing fiscal year. The General Fund appropriation is enacted into law by the legislature and sent to the Governor for his signature. The Senate is authorized to transfer budget amounts between accounts in the General Fund. Revisions that alter total appropriations must be approved by the legislature. The level of budgetary responsibility is by total appropriation. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end and require that any amounts not expended or encumbered at the close of the fiscal year be returned to the state General Fund unless otherwise reappropriated by subsequent legislative action. Current appropriation legislation authorizes such reappropriation of prior year funds.

The budget of the General Fund is prepared on the budgetary (legal) basis of accounting. In compliance with budgetary authorization, the Senate includes the prior year's fund balance represented by appropriate liquid assets remaining in the fund as a budgeted revenue in the succeeding year. The result of operations on a GAAP basis does not recognize the fund balance allocation as revenue as it represents prior period's excess of revenues over expenditures.

Encumbrance accounting is used during the year to reserve portions of the annual appropriation for unfilled purchase orders. Year-end encumbrances are not charged against the current year appropriation and are carried forward into the next budget year.

Compensated Absences:

Accumulated unpaid annual and compensatory leave is reported in the Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities within the accompanying financial statements. The Senate, State of Louisiana's employees accrue unlimited amounts of annual and sick leave at varying rates as established by the Senate's personnel practices. Upon resignation or retirement, unused annual leave of up to 300 hours is paid to employees at the employee's current rate of pay. Upon retirement, annual leave in excess of 300 hours and unused sick leave are credited as earned service in computing retirement benefits.

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JUNE 30, 2023

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (Continued)

Compensated Absences: (Continued)

Furthermore, employees earn unlimited compensatory leave for hours worked in excess of 40 hours per week. The compensatory leave may be used similarly to annual or sick leave, and any unused compensatory leave of up to 300 hours is paid to the employee upon resignation or retirement at the employee's current rate of pay.

Postemployment Benefits:

The Senate, State of Louisiana, provides certain healthcare and life insurance benefits for retired employees. Substantially all of the Senate's employees may become eligible for those benefits if they reach normal retirement age while working for the Senate. These benefits for retirees and similar benefits for active employees are provided through the State's Office of Group Benefits Plan and the LSU System Health Plan. Monthly premiums are paid jointly by the employee and the Senate. The Senate recognizes the cost of providing these benefits as expenditures in the year paid in the General Fund. For the year ended June 30, 2023, those costs totaled \$661,959, which covered 139 retired employees, funded through the legislative appropriation.

Fund Balance:

Fund balance is classified in the following components:

- (a) Nonspendable includes fund balance amounts that cannot be spent either because it is in nonspendable form (such as inventory) or because of legal or contractual constraints.
- (b) Restricted includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes which are externally imposed by providers (such as grantors, bondholders, and higher levels of government) or amounts constrained due to constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- (c) Committed includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes that are imposed by the Senate itself, using its highest level of decision-making authority. To be reported as *committed*, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Senate takes the same highest-level action to remove or change the constraint.
- (d) Assigned includes fund balance amounts the Senate intends to use for specific purposes that are neither considered restricted nor committed. Intent can be expressed by the Senate or by an official or body to which the Senate delegates the authority.

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2023

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (Continued)

Fund Balance: (Continued)

- (e) *Unassigned* fund balance amounts include the residual amounts of fund balance which do not fall into one of the other components. Positive amounts are reported only in the General Fund.

When an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available, the Senate considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When an expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances are available, the Senate considers amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, and finally unassigned funds, as needed, unless the Senate has provided otherwise in its commitment or assignment actions. The Senate does not have a formal minimum fund balance policy.

Noncurrent Liabilities:

Noncurrent liabilities include estimated amounts for accrued compensated absences, other postemployment benefits payable, net pension liability, and lease liability that will not be paid within the next fiscal year.

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS) and Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL) and additions to/deductions from LASERS's and TRSL's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by LASERS and TRSL. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

Net Position:

Net position comprises the various net earnings from revenues and expenses. Net position is classified in the following components:

- (a) *Net investment in capital assets* consists of the Senate's total investment in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, and reduced by any related liabilities.
- (b) *Restricted* consists of resources restricted by external sources such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or by law.

SENATE  
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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2023

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (Continued)

Net Position: (Continued)

- (c) *Unrestricted* consists of resources derived from state appropriations, interest earnings, and other miscellaneous sources. These resources are used for transactions relating to general operations of the Senate and may be used at its discretion to meet current expenses and for any purpose.

Estimates:

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Adoption of New Accounting Principles:

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the Senate implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*. GASB Statement No. 96 provides guidance on the accounting and financial reporting for subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs) for governments. It establishes that a SBITA results in a right-to-use subscription asset and a corresponding subscription liability. The Senate has analyzed the provisions of GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*, and has concluded that there are no SBITAs which qualify for adjustment or disclosure under the new standard. Therefore, no restatement of prior periods or cumulative effect adjustment recorded in the year of adoption was considered necessary.

The following GASB statement was also effective but did not impact the financial statements of the Senate, State of Louisiana: GASB Statement No. 94, *Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships (P3s) and Availability Payment Arrangements (APAs)*.

2. CASH IN BANK:

At June 30, 2023, the carrying amounts of the Senate's cash accounts were \$21,216,617 and the bank balances were \$21,396,720. These balances are entirely secured from risk by federal depository insurance or by pledged securities held by the Senate's custodial bank in the name of the Senate.

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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3. CAPITAL ASSETS:

Below is a summary of the Senate, State of Louisiana's capital asset accounts during the year ended June 30, 2023:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>July 1, 2022</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>June 30, 2023</u>
Furniture, fixtures, and equipment	\$ 815,839	\$ 226,553	\$ (40,921)	\$ 1,001,471
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(547,854)</u>	<u>(94,347)</u>	<u>40,921</u>	<u>(601,280)</u>
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 267,985</u>	<u>\$ 132,206</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 400,191</u>

Below is a summary of Senate, State of Louisiana's right of use assets during the year ended June 30, 2023:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>July 1, 2022</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>June 30, 2023</u>
Right of use assets	\$ 202,215	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 202,215
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(60,665)</u>	<u>(40,443)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(101,108)</u>
Right of use assets, net	<u>\$ 141,550</u>	<u>\$ (40,443)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 101,107</u>

4. PENSION PLANS:

Plan Descriptions:

Substantially all employees of the Senate are members of two statewide, public employee retirement systems, Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS) and Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL). Both plans are administered by separate boards of trustees and are cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plans. The State of Louisiana guarantees benefits granted by the retirement systems by provisions of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974. Article 10, Section 29 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the state legislature. The systems issue annual, publicly available financial reports that include financial statements and required supplementary information for the systems. The reports for TRSL and LASERS may be obtained at [www.trsl.org](http://www.trsl.org) and [www.lasersonline.org](http://www.lasersonline.org), respectively.

*Retirement Benefits - LASERS:*

LASERS administers a plan to provide retirement, disability, and survivor benefits to eligible state employees and their beneficiaries as defined in R.S. 11:411-414. The age and years of creditable service required in order for a member to retire with full benefits are established by statute and vary depending on the member's hire date, employer, and job classification.

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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4. PENSION PLANS: (Continued)

Benefits Provided: (Continued)

*Retirement Benefits - LASERS*: (Continued)

The rank-and-file members hired prior to July 1, 2006, may either retire with full benefits at any age upon completing 30 years of creditable service, at age 55 upon completing 25 years of creditable service, and at age 60 upon completing 10 years of creditable service depending on their plan. Those members hired between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2015, may retire at age 60 upon completing five years of creditable service and those hired on or after July 1, 2015 may retire at age 62 upon completing five years of creditable service. The basic annual retirement benefit for members is equal to 2.5% to 3.5% of average compensation multiplied by the number of years of creditable service. Additionally, members may choose to retire with 20 years of service at any age, with an actuarially reduced benefit.

Average compensation is defined as the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 36 consecutive months of employment for members employed prior to July 1, 2006. For members hired July 1, 2006 or later, average compensation is based on the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 60 consecutive months of employment. The maximum annual retirement benefit cannot exceed the lesser of 100% of average compensation or a certain specified dollar amount of actuarially determined monetary limits, which vary depending upon the member's age at retirement. Judges, court officers, and certain elected officials receive an additional annual retirement benefit equal to 1.0% of average compensation multiplied by the number of years of creditable service in their respective capacity. As an alternative to the basic retirement benefits, a member may elect to receive their retirement throughout their life, with certain benefits being paid to their designated beneficiary after their death.

Act 992 of the 2010 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session changed the benefit structure for LASERS members hired on or after January 1, 2011. This resulted in three new plans: regular, hazardous duty, and judges. The new regular plan includes regular members and those members who were formerly eligible to participate in specialty plans, excluding hazardous duty and judges. Regular members and judges are eligible to retire at age 60 after five years of creditable service and, may also retire at any age, with a reduced benefit, after 20 years of creditable service. Hazardous duty members are eligible to retire with 12 years of creditable service at age 55, 25 years of creditable service at any age, or with a reduced benefit after 20 years of creditable service. Average compensation will be based on the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 60 consecutive months of employment for all three new plans. Members in the regular plan will receive a 2.5% accrual rate, hazardous duty plan a 3.33% accrual rate, and judges a 3.5% accrual rate. The extra 1.0% accrual rate for each year of service for court officers, the governor, lieutenant governor, legislators, House clerk, sergeants at arms, or Senate secretary, employed after January 1, 2011, was eliminated by Act 992. Specialty plan and regular members, hired prior to January 1, 2011, who are hazardous duty employees have the option to transition to the new hazardous duty plan.

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2023

4. PENSION PLANS: (Continued)

Benefits Provided: (Continued)

*Retirement Benefits - LASERS:* (Continued)

Act 226 of the 2014 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session established new retirement eligibility for members of LASERS hired on or after July 1, 2015, excluding hazardous duty plan members. Regular members and judges under the new plan are eligible to retire at age 62 after five years of creditable service and may also retire at any age, with a reduced benefit, after 20 years of creditable service. Average compensation will be based on the member's average annual earned compensation for the highest 60 consecutive months of employment. Members in the regular plan will receive a 2.5% accrual rate and judges a 3.5% accrual rate, with the extra 1.0% accrual rate based on all years of service as a judge.

A member leaving employment before attaining minimum retirement age, but after completing certain minimum service requirements, becomes eligible for a benefit provided the member lives to the minimum service retirement age, and does not withdraw their accumulated contributions. The minimum service requirement for benefits varies depending upon the member's employer and service classification.

*Retirement Benefits - TRSL:*

TRSL administers a plan to provide retirement, disability, and survivor benefits to employees who meet the legal definition of a "teacher" as provided for in R.S. 11:701.

Members of the Regular Plan whose first employment makes them eligible for membership in a Louisiana state retirement system on or after July 1, 2015, may retire with a 2.5% benefit factor after attaining age 62 with at least five years of service credit and are eligible for an actuarially reduced benefit with 20 years of service at any age. Members of the Regular Plan whose first employment makes them eligible for membership in a Louisiana state retirement system on or after January 1, 2011, may retire with a 2.5% benefit factor after attaining age 60 with at least five years of service credit and are eligible for an actuarially reduced benefit with 20 years of service at any age. All other members, if initially hired on or after July 1, 1999, are eligible for a 2.5% benefit factor at the earliest of age 60 with five years of service, age 55 with 25 years of service, or at any age with 30 years of service. Members may retire with an actuarially reduced benefit with 20 years of service at any age. If hired before July 1, 1999, members are eligible for a 2.0% benefit factor at the earliest of age 60 with five years of service, or at any age with 20 years of service and are eligible for a 2.5% benefit factor at the earliest of age 65 with 20 years of service, age 55 with 25 years of service, or at any age with 30 years of service.

SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2023

4. PENSION PLANS: (Continued)

Benefits Provided: (Continued)

*Retirement Benefits - TRSL*: (Continued)

Retirement benefits are based on a formula which multiplies the final average compensation by the applicable benefit factor, and by the years of creditable service. For Regular Plan and Lunch Plan B members whose first employment makes them eligible for membership in a Louisiana state retirement system on or after January 1, 2011, final average compensation is defined as the highest average 60-month period. For all other members, final average compensation is defined as the highest average 36-month period.

A retiring TRSL member is entitled to receive the maximum monthly benefit payable until the member's death. In lieu of the maximum monthly benefit, the member may elect to receive a reduced monthly benefit payable in the form of a Joint and Survivor Option, or a monthly benefit (maximum or reduced Joint and Survivor Option) with a lump sum that can't exceed 36 months of the members' maximum monthly benefit amount.

Effective July 1, 2009, members may make an irrevocable election at retirement to receive an actuarially reduced monthly benefit which increases 2.5% annually, beginning on the first retirement anniversary date, but not before age 55 or before the retiree would have attained age 55 in the case of a surviving spouse. This option can be chosen in combination with the above options.

*Deferred Benefits - LASERS*:

The State Legislature authorized LASERS to establish a Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP). When a member enters DROP, their status changes from active member to retiree even though they continue to work and draw their salary for a period of up to three years. The election is irrevocable once participation begins. During DROP participation, accumulated retirement benefits that would have been paid to each retiree are separately tracked. For members who entered DROP prior to January 1, 2004, interest at a rate of one-half percent less than the System's realized return on its portfolio (not to be less than zero) will be credited to the retiree after participation ends. At that time, the member must choose among available alternatives for the distribution of benefits that have accumulated in the DROP account. Members who enter DROP on or after January 1, 2004, are required to participate in LASERS Self-Directed Plan (SDP) which is administered by a third-party provider. The SDP allows DROP participants to choose from a menu of investment options for the allocation of their DROP balances. Participants may diversify their investments by choosing from an approved list of mutual funds with different holdings, management styles, and risk factors.

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JUNE 30, 2023

4. PENSION PLANS: (Continued)

Benefits Provided: (Continued)

*Deferred Benefits - LASERS:* (Continued)

Members eligible to retire and who do not choose to participate in DROP may elect to receive at the time of retirement an initial benefit option (IBO) in an amount up to 36 months of benefits, with an actuarial reduction of their future benefits. For members who selected the IBO option prior to January 1, 2004, such amount may be withdrawn or remain in the IBO account earning interest at a rate of one-half less than the System's realized return on its portfolio (not to be less than zero). Those members who select the IBO on or after January 1, 2004, are required to enter the SDP as described above.

*Deferred Benefits - TRSL:*

In lieu of terminating employment and accepting a service retirement, an eligible TRSL member can begin participation in the Deferred Retirement Option Program (DROP) on the first retirement eligibility date for a period not to exceed three years. A member has a 60-day window from his first eligible date to participate in the program in order to participate for the maximum number of years. Delayed participation reduces the three-year maximum participation period. During participation, benefits otherwise payable are fixed, and deposited in an individual DROP account. Upon termination of DROP participation, the member can continue employment and earn additional benefit accruals to be added to the fixed pre-DROP benefit. Upon termination of employment, the member is entitled to the fixed benefit, an additional benefit based on post-DROP service (if any), and the individual DROP account balance which can be paid in a lump sum or an additional annuity based upon the account balance.

*Disability Benefits - LASERS:*

Generally, active members with 10 or more years of credited service who become disabled may receive a maximum disability retirement benefit equivalent to the regular retirement formula without reduction by reason of age. Upon reaching retirement age, the disability retiree may receive a regular retirement benefit by applying to the Board of Trustees.

*Disability Benefits - TRSL:*

Active members of TRSL whose first employment makes them eligible for membership in a Louisiana state retirement system before January 1, 2011, and who have five or more years of service credit, are eligible for disability retirement benefits if certified by the State Medical Disability Board (SMDB) to be disabled from performing their job. All other members must have at least 10 years of service to be eligible for a disability benefit. Calculation of the disability benefit as well as the availability of a minor child benefit is determined by the plan to which the member belongs and the date on which the member's first employment made them eligible for membership in a Louisiana state retirement system.

SENATE  
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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2023

4. PENSION PLANS: (Continued)

Benefits Provided: (Continued)

*Survivor's Benefits - LASERS:*

Certain eligible surviving dependents receive benefits based on the deceased member's compensation and their relationship to the deceased. The deceased regular member hired before January 1, 2011, who was in state service at the time of death, must have a minimum of five years of service credit, at least two of which were earned immediately prior to death, or who had a minimum of 20 years of service credit, regardless of when earned, in order for a benefit to be paid to a minor or handicapped child. Benefits are payable to an unmarried child until age 18, or age 23 if the child remains a full-time student. The aforementioned minimum service credit requirement is 10 years for a surviving spouse with no minor children, and benefits are to be paid for life to the spouse or qualified handicapped child.

The deceased regular member hired on or after January 1, 2011, must have a minimum of five years of service credit regardless of when earned in order for a benefit to be paid to a minor child. The aforementioned minimum service credit requirements for a surviving spouse are 10 years, two years being earned immediately prior to death, and in active state service at the time of death, or a minimum of 20 years of service credit regardless of when earned. A deceased member's spouse must have been married for at least one year before death.

*Survivor's Benefits - TRSL:*

A surviving spouse with minor children of an active member with five years of creditable service (2 years immediately prior to death) or 20 years of creditable service is entitled to a benefit equal to the greater of (a) \$600 per month, or (b) 50% of the member's benefit calculated at the 2.5% accrual rate for all creditable service. When a minor child(ren) is no longer eligible to receive survivor benefits, and the deceased member had at least 10 years of creditable service, the spouse's benefit reverts to a survivor benefit in accordance with the provisions for a surviving spouse with no minor child(ren). Benefits for the minor child(ren) cease when he/she is no longer eligible.

Each minor child (maximum of 2) shall receive an amount equal to the greater of (a) 50% of the spouse's benefit, or (b) \$300 (up to 2 eligible children). Benefits to minors cease at attainment of age 21, marriage, or age 23 if enrolled in an approved institution of higher education.

A surviving spouse without minor children of an active member with 10 years of creditable service (2 years immediately prior to death) or 20 years of creditable service is entitled to a benefit equal to the greater of (a) \$600 per month, or (b) the option 2 equivalent of the benefit calculated at the 2.5% benefit factor for all creditable service.

SENATE  
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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
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4. PENSION PLANS: (Continued)

Benefits Provided: (Continued)

*Permanent Benefit Increases/Cost-of-Living Adjustments:*

As fully described in Title 11 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, LASERS and TRSL allow for the payment of permanent benefit increases, also known as cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) that are funded through investment earnings when recommended by the Board of Trustees and approved by the State Legislature.

*Optional Retirement Plan – TRSL:*

The Optional Retirement Plan (ORP) was established for academic employees of public institutions of higher education who are eligible for membership in TRSL. This plan was designed to provide certain academic and unclassified employees of public institutions of higher education an optional method of funding for their retirement.

The ORP is a defined contribution pension plan which provides for portability of assets and full and immediate vesting of all contributions submitted on behalf of the affected employees to the approved providers. These providers are selected by the TRSL Board of Trustees. Monthly employer and employee contributions are invested as directed by the employee to provide the employee with future retirement benefits. The amount of these benefits is entirely dependent upon the total contributions and investment returns accumulated during the employee's working lifetime.

Employees in eligible positions of higher education can make an irrevocable election to participate in the ORP rather than TRSL and purchase annuity contracts—fixed, variable, or both—for benefits payable at retirement.

Contributions:

Employee contribution rates are established by La. R.S. 11:62. The employer contribution rates are established annually under La. R.S. 11:101-11:104 by the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee (PRSAC), taking into consideration the recommendation of the Systems' actuaries. Each plan pays a separate actuarially-determined employer contribution rate. However, all assets of each plan are used for the payment of benefits for all classes of members within each system, regardless of their plan membership.

The employee contribution rate for LASERS and TRSL was 8% of covered payroll, except for LASERS members hired before July 1, 2006, who contribute 7.5% of covered payroll. For the year ended June 30, 2023, the employer contribution rate for LASERS and TRSL was 40.40% and 24.80%, respectively. For the year ended June 30, 2023, the employer contribution rate for the TRSL ORP was 27.00%.

SENATE  
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4. PENSION PLANS: (Continued)

Contributions: (Continued)

Employer contributions to LASERS and TRSL were \$3,788,777 and \$13,622, respectively, for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions:

At June 30, 2023, the Senate reported a liability for LASERS and TRSL of \$30,374,438 and \$56,711, respectively, for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liabilities were measured as of June 30, 2022, and the total pension liabilities used to calculate the net pension liabilities were determined by actuarial valuations as of that date.

The Senate's proportion of the net pension liability for each retirement system was based on a projection of the Senate's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2022, the most recent measurement date, the Senate's proportion for LASERS and TRSL was 0.40179% and 0.00059%, respectively. This reflects a decrease for LASERS of 0.00922% and 0.00001% for TRSL, from its proportions measured as of June 30, 2021.

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the Senate recognized pension expense (benefit), for which there were no forfeitures, as follows:

	Pension <u>Expense (Benefit)</u>
LASERS	\$ 2,797,931
TRSL	<u>(43,223)</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 2,754,708</u></u>

SENATE  
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4. PENSION PLANS: (Continued)

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions: (Continued)

At June 30, 2023, the Senate reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources			Deferred Inflows of Resources		
	LASERS	TRSL	Total	LASERS	TRSL	Total
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 82,835	\$ 879	\$ 83,714	\$ -	\$ 164	\$ 164
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	2,446,552	3,218	2,449,770	-	-	-
Changes of assumptions	552,250	3,825	556,075	-	-	-
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions	-	3,848	3,848	136,265	50,765	187,030
Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date	3,788,777	13,622	3,802,399	-	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 6,870,414</u>	<u>\$ 25,392</u>	<u>\$ 6,895,806</u>	<u>\$ 136,265</u>	<u>\$ 50,929</u>	<u>\$ 187,194</u>

During the year ended June 30, 2023, employer contributions totaling \$3,788,777 and \$13,622 were made subsequent to the measurement date for LASERS and TRSL, respectively. These contributions are reported as deferred outflows of resources and will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension expense will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

<u>Year ending June 30:</u>	<u>LASERS</u>	<u>TRSL</u>
2024	\$ 1,381,318	\$ (47,670)
2025	505,524	2,450
2026	(618,661)	32
2027	1,677,191	6,029
Total	<u>\$ 2,945,372</u>	<u>\$ (39,159)</u>

SENATE  
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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2023

4. PENSION PLANS: (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions:

The total pension liabilities for LASERS and TRSL in the June 30, 2022, actuarial valuations were determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurements:

	<b>LASERS</b>	<b>TRSL</b>
<b>Valuation Date</b>	June 30, 2022	June 30, 2022
<b>Actuarial cost method</b>	Entry Age Normal	Entry Age Normal
<b>Actuarial assumptions:</b>		
<b>Amortization approach</b>	Closed	Closed
<b>Expected Remaining Service Lives</b>	2 years	5 years
<b>Investment rate of return</b>	7.25% per annum, net of investment expenses	7.25% per annum, net of investment expenses
<b>Inflation rate</b>	2.30% per annum	2.30% per annum
<b>Projected salary increases</b>	Salary increases were projected based on a 2014-2018 experience study of the System's members. The salary increases for specific types of members range from 2.6% - 13.8%.	3.1% - 4.6%, varies depending on duration of service
<b>Cost-of-living adjustments</b>	None, since they are not deemed to be substantively automatic.	None, since they are not deemed to be substantively automatic.
<b>Mortality</b>	<p><b>Non-disabled members</b> - Mortality rates based on the RP-2014 Blue Collar (males/females) and White Collar (females) Healthy Annuitant Tables projected on a fully generational basis by Mortality Improvement Scale MP-2018.</p> <p><b>Disabled members</b> - Mortality rates based on the RP-2000 Disabled Retiree Mortality Table, with no projection for mortality improvement.</p>	<p><b>Active members</b> - RP-2014 White Collar Employee tables, adjusted by 1.010 for males and by 0.997 for females.</p> <p><b>Non-Disabled retiree/inactive members</b> - RP-2014 White Collar Healthy Annuitant tables, adjusted by 1.366 for males and by 1.189 for females.</p> <p><b>Disability retiree mortality</b> - RP-2014 Disability tables, adjusted by 1.111 for males and by 1.134 for females.</p> <p>These base tables are adjusted from 2014 to 2018 using the MP-2017 generational improvement table, with continued future mortality improvement projected using the MP-2017 generational mortality improvement tables.</p>
<b>Termination, disability, and retirement</b>	Termination, disability, and retirement assumptions were projected based on a five-year (2014-2018) experience study of the System's members.	Termination, disability, and retirement assumptions were projected based on a 5-year (2013-2017) experience study of the System's members.

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4. PENSION PLANS: (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions: (Continued)

For LASERS and TRSL, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expenses and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation (LASERS 2.30%; TRSL 2.30%) and an adjustment for the effect of rebalancing/diversification. The resulting expected long-term rates of return for LASERS and TRSL are 8.34% and 8.32%, respectively.

The target allocation and best estimates of geometric (LASERS) and arithmetic (TRSL) real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2022, are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>		<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>	
	<u>LASERS</u>	<u>TRSL</u>	<u>LASERS</u>	<u>TRSL</u>
Cash	0.00%		0.39%	
Domestic equity	31.00%	27.00%	4.57%	4.15%
International equity	23.00%	19.00%	5.76%	5.16%
Domestic fixed income	3.00%	13.00%	1.48%	0.85%
International fixed income	17.00%	5.50%	5.04%	-0.10%
Alternative investments:	26.00%		8.30%	
Private equity		25.50%		8.15%
Other private assets		10.00%		3.72%
Total	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>100.00%</u>	5.91%	

Discount Rates:

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability for LASERS and TRSL was 7.25%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rates and that contributions from participating employers will be made at the actuarially determined rates approved by PRSAC taking into consideration the recommendation of the pension plans' actuaries. Based on those assumptions, the pension plans' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

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4. PENSION PLANS: (Continued)

Sensitivity of the Employer’s Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rates:

The following presents the Senate’s proportionate share of the net pension liability using the discount rate, as well as what the Senate’s proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower or one percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	1.0% Decrease 6.25%	Current Discount Rate	1.0% Increase 8.25%
LASERS	\$ 38,219,907	\$ 30,374,438	\$ 23,220,510
TRSL	77,883	56,711	37,486
Total	\$ 38,297,790	\$ 30,431,149	\$ 23,257,996

Support of Non-employer Contributing Entities:

Contributions received by a pension plan from non-employer contributing entities that are not in a special funding situation are recorded as revenue by the respective pension plan. The Senate recognizes revenue in an amount equal to its proportionate share of the total contributions to the pension plan from these non-employer contributing entities. During the year ended June 30, 2023, the Senate recognized revenue as a result of support received from non-employer contributing entities of \$269 for its participation in TRSL. LASERS does not receive support from non-employer contributing entities and, as a result, no revenue was recorded for the participation in LASERS for the year ended June 30, 2023.

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position:

Detailed information about the pension plans’ fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued LASERS and TRSL 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Reports at [www.lasersonline.org](http://www.lasersonline.org) and [www.trsl.org](http://www.trsl.org), respectively.

Payables to the Pension Plans:

At June 30, 2023, payables to LASERS and TRSL were \$64,108 and \$268, respectively, for June 2023 employee and employer legally required contributions.

5. OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS:

Substantially all Senate employees become eligible for postemployment healthcare and life insurance benefits if they reach normal retirement age while working for the Senate. The Senate offers its employees the opportunity to participate in one of two medical coverage plans. One plan is from the state’s Office of Group Benefits (OGB) which also offers a life insurance plan, and the other is with the Louisiana State University (LSU) System Health Plan. Information about each of these two plans is presented on the following pages.

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5. OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS: (Continued)

Plan Descriptions:

*State OGB Plan:*

The Senate, State of Louisiana's employees may participate in the State of Louisiana's Other Postemployment Benefit Plan (OPEB Plan), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit plan, but classified as an agent multiple-employer defined benefit OPEB Plan for financial reporting purposes since the plan is not administered as a formal trust. The Office of Group Benefits administers the plan.

There are no assets accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria of paragraph 4 of GASB Statement No. 75. Effective July 1, 2008, an OPEB trust fund was statutorily established; however, this plan is not administered as a trust and no plan assets have been accumulated as of June 30, 2023.

The Office of Group Benefits does not issue a publicly available financial report of the OPEB Plan; however, it is included in the State of Louisiana's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). You may obtain a copy of the ACFR on the Office of Statewide Reporting and Accounting Policy's website at [www.doa.la.gov/Pages/osrap/Index.asp](http://www.doa.la.gov/Pages/osrap/Index.asp).

*LSU System Health Plan:*

The LSU System Health Plan originally began as a pilot program within the State Office of Group Benefits (OGB), the office that provides health benefits to state employees pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 42:851. The state agency participation is not material and, as such, the plan is identified as a single-employer defined benefit healthcare plan that is not administered as a trust or equivalent arrangement. There are no assets accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria of paragraph 4 of GASB Statement No.75.

The LSU System Health Plan selects claim and pharmaceutical administrators to administer its program. Both claim and pharmacy administrators are selected through a formal Request for Proposals process followed by negotiations between the System and qualified vendors.

The Health Plan does not issue a publicly available financial report, but it is included in the LSU System's audited Financial Report. The Financial Report may be obtained from the LSU System's website at <http://www.lsu.edu/>.

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5. OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS: (Continued)

Benefits Provided:

*State OGB Plan:*

The OPEB Plan provides medical, prescription drug, and life insurance benefits to eligible active employees, retirees, disabled retirees, and their beneficiaries through premium subsidies. Current employees, who participate in an OGB health plan while active, are eligible for plan benefits if they are enrolled in the OGB health plan immediately before the date of retirement and retire under one of the state sponsored retirement systems (Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System, Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System, or Louisiana State Police Retirement System) or they retire from a participating employer that meets the qualifications in the Louisiana Administrative Code 32:3.303. Benefit provisions are established under R.S. 42:851 for health insurance benefits and R.S. 42:821 for life insurance benefits.

*LSU System Health Plan:*

The Health Plan offers eligible employees, retirees, and their beneficiaries the opportunity to participate in comprehensive health and preventive care coverage that gives members a unique, consumer-driven health-care approach to pay routine health expenses and provides coverage for major healthcare expenses.

Contributions:

*State OGB Plan:*

The obligations of the plan members, employer(s), and other contributing entities to contribute to the plan are established or may be amended under the authority of R.S. 42:802. The plan is funded on a "pay-as-you-go basis" under which the contributions to the plan are generally made at about the same time and in about the same amount as benefit payments become due. Employees do not contribute to their postemployment benefits cost until they become retirees and begin receiving benefits. The retirees contribute to the cost of their postemployment benefits based on a service schedule.

Employer contributions are based on plan premiums and the employer contribution percentage. Premium amounts vary depending on the health plan selected and if the retired member has Medicare coverage. Employer contributions to the OPEB plan were \$212,801 during the year ended June 30, 2023. OGB offers retirees four self-insured healthcare plans and one fully insured plan. Retired employees who have Medicare Part A and Part B coverage also have access to six fully insured Medicare Advantage plans and an Individual Medicare Market Exchange Plan that provides monthly health reimbursement arrangement credits.

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5. OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS: (Continued)

Contributions: (Continued)

*State OGB Plan: (Continued)*

The employer contribution percentage is based on the date of participation in an OGB plan and employee years of service at retirement. Employees who begin participation or rejoin the plan before January 1, 2002, pay approximately 25% of the cost of coverage (except single retirees under age 65, who pay approximately 25% of the active employee cost). For those beginning participation or rejoining on or after January 1, 2002, the percentage of premiums contributed by the employer and retiree is based on the following schedule:

<u>Years of Participation</u>	<u>Employer Contribution Percentage</u>	<u>Employee Contribution Percentage</u>
Under 10 years	19%	81%
10 - 14 years	38%	62%
15 - 19 years	56%	44%
20+ years	75%	25%

In addition to healthcare benefits, retirees may elect to receive life insurance benefits. The life insurance benefits offered by the State OGB Plan are also available to retirees who elect to participate in the LSU System Health Plan. Basic and supplemental life insurance is available for the individual retirees and spouses of retirees subject to maximum values. Employers pay approximately 50% of monthly premiums for individual retirees. The retiree is responsible for 100% of the premium for dependents. The total monthly premium for retirees varies according to age group.

While actuarially determined, the plan rates must be approved by OGB under R.S. 42:851(B). Plan rates are in effect for one year, and members have the opportunity to switch providers during the open enrollment period, which usually occurs during October.

*LSU System Health Plan:*

The plan is financed on a pay-as-you-go basis. The pay-as-you-go expense is the net expected cost of providing retiree benefits. This expense includes all expected claims and related expenses and is offset by retiree contributions. The LSU System Health Plan does not use a trust fund to administer the financing of the plan and the payment of benefits. Employees do not contribute to their postemployment benefits cost until they become retirees and begin receiving those benefits. The retirees contribute to the cost of retiree healthcare based on a service schedule.

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5. OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS: (Continued)

Contributions: (Continued)

*LSU System Health Plan: (Continued)*

Employer participation in contributions to the LSU System Health Plan for retirees follows the same schedule that is used for retirees in the state OGB Plan, which is described previously. Prior participation in the state OGB Plan counts toward service time when determining the employer contribution rate. Employer contributions to the LSU Plan were \$449,158 during the year ended June 30, 2023.

OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB:

At June 30, 2023, the Senate reported a liability of \$3,917,243 and \$15,240,536 for the OGB State Plan and the LSU System Health Plan, respectively, for its proportionate share of the collective total OPEB liability. The collective total OPEB liability for the OGB State Plan was measured as of July 1, 2022 and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The collective total OPEB liability for the LSU System Health Plan was determined by an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2023, which was rolled forward to a measurement date of June 30, 2023.

The Senate's proportionate share percentage is based on the employer's individual OPEB actuarial accrued liability (AAL) in relation to the total OPEB AAL liability for all participating entities included in the State of Louisiana Reporting entity. For the State OGB Plan, the Senate's proportion was 0.0580% as of the measurement date of July 1, 2022, an increase of 0.0040% since the measurement date of July 1, 2021. For the LSU System Health Plan, the Senate's proportion was 1.8229% as of the measurement date of June 30, 2023, a decrease of 0.0034% since the measurement date of June 30, 2022.

For the year ended June 30, 2023, the Senate recognized OPEB expense (benefit) of \$61,580, or \$(297,560) and \$359,140 for the OGB State Plan and LSU System Health Plan, respectively. At June 30, 2023, the Senate reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

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5. OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS: (Continued)

OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB: (Continued)

	Deferred Outflows of Resources			Deferred Inflows of Resources		
	OGB State Plan	LSU System Health Plan	Total	OGB State Plan	LSU System Health Plan	Total
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	\$ 268,662	\$ 3,747,803	\$ 4,016,465	\$ 1,287,234	\$ 9,212,235	\$ 10,499,469
Differences between expected and actual experience	119,155	2,288,872	2,408,027	-	5,043,179	5,043,179
Changes in proportion and differences between benefit payments and proportionate share of benefit payments	332,674	260,673	593,347	486,119	-	486,119
Amounts paid by the employer for OPEB contributions subsequent to the measurement date	212,801	-	212,801	-	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 933,292</u>	<u>\$ 6,297,348</u>	<u>\$ 7,230,640</u>	<u>\$ 1,773,353</u>	<u>\$ 14,255,414</u>	<u>\$ 16,028,767</u>

Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from the Senate's benefit payments subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the total collective OPEB liability in the year ending June 30, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Year ending June 30:	OGB State Plan	LSU System Health Plan
2024	\$ (424,833)	\$ (544,225)
2025	(273,577)	(504,281)
2026	(232,829)	(1,427,956)
2027	(121,623)	(2,789,368)
Thereafter	-	(2,692,236)
Total	<u>\$ (1,052,862)</u>	<u>\$ (7,958,066)</u>

Actuarial Assumptions:

The collective total OPEB liability in the actuarial valuations were determined using the following actuarial methods, assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

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5. OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS: (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions: (Continued)

	State OGB Plan	LSU System Health Plan
<b>Valuation Date</b>	July 1, 2022	January 1, 2023
<b>Measurement Date</b>	July 1, 2022	June 30, 2023
<b>Actuarial cost method</b>	Entry Age Normal, level percentage of pay. Service costs are attributed through all assumed ages of exit from active service. For current DROP participants, assumed exit from active service is the date at which DROP ends.	Entry Age Normal, level percentage of pay
<b>Actuarial assumptions:</b>		
<b>Expected Remaining Service Lives</b>	4.5 years	6.9 years
<b>Inflation rate</b>	2.40%	3.00%
<b>Salary increase rate</b>	Consistent with the pension valuation assumptions disclosed in note 4	Consistent with the pension valuation assumptions disclosed in note 4
<b>Discount rate</b>	4.09% based on the June 30, 2022 S&P 20-Year Municipal Bond Index	3.65%
<b>Mortality rates</b>	<p><i>For active lives</i> : the RP-2014 Blue Collar Employee Table, adjusted by 0.978 for males and 1.144 for females, projected from 2014 on a fully generational basis by Mortality Improvement Scale MP-2018.</p> <p><i>For healthy retiree lives</i> : the RP-2014 Blue Collar Healthy Annuitant Table, adjusted by 1.280 for males and RP-2014 White Collar Healthy Annuitant Table, adjusted by 1.417 for females, projected from 2014 on a fully generational basis by Mortality Improvement Scale MP-2018.</p> <p><i>For disabled retiree lives</i> : the RP-2000 Disabled Retiree Mortality Table, adjusted by 1.009 for males and 1.043 for females, not projected with mortality improvement.</p>	<p><i>Non-Disabled lives</i> : Pub-2010 headcount weighted mortality table with generational scale MP-21, applied specifically for teachers, general and safety personnel.</p> <p><i>Disabled lives</i> : Pub-2010 headcount weighted disabled mortality table with generational scale MP-21, applied specifically for teachers, general and safety personnel.</p> <p><i>Note</i> : No future mortality improvements other than the generation scaling for MP-21 were used.</p>
<b>Healthcare cost trend rates</b>	7.00% for pre-Medicare eligible employees grading down by .25% each year, beginning in 2023-2024, to an ultimate rate of 4.5% in 2032-2033 and thereafter; 5.50% for post-Medicare eligible employees grading down by .10% each year, beginning in 2023-2024, to an ultimate rate of 4.5% in 2032-2033 and thereafter; the initial trend was developed using the National Health Care Trend Survey; the ultimate trend was developed using a building block approach which considers Consumer Price Index, Gross Domestic Product, and technology growth.	<p>The healthcare cost trend assumptions are used to project the cost of healthcare in future years. The following annual trend rates are based on the current HCA Consulting trend study. The long term rates are determined utilizing the Getzen model, published by the Society of Actuaries. Select trends are reduced 0.25% each year until reaching the ultimate trend rate.</p> <p><i>Pre Medicare Medical/RX Benefits</i> - 7.0% (Select) and 4.0% (Ultimate)</p> <p><i>Post Medicare benefits</i> - 6.0% (Select) and 4.0% (Ultimate)</p> <p><i>Stop loss fees</i> - 7.0% (Select) and 4.0% (Ultimate)</p> <p><i>Administrative fees</i> - 4.0% (Select) and 4.0% (Ultimate)</p>

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5. OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS: (Continued)

Discount Rate:

The OPEB liability for the State OGB Plan was affected by a change in the discount rate from 2.18% as of July 1, 2021 to 4.09% as of July 1, 2022. The OPEB liability for the LSU System Health Plan was affected by a change in the discount rate from 3.54% as of the measurement date of June 30, 2022 to 3.65% as of the measurement date of June 30, 2023.

Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of the Collective Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate:

The following presents the Senate's proportionate share of the collective total OPEB liability using the current discount rate as well as what the Senate's proportionate share of the collective total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower or one percentage-point higher than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
State OGB Plan	\$ 4,457,656	\$ 3,917,243	\$ 3,478,155
LSU System Health Plan	18,441,048	15,240,536	12,732,665
Total Proportionate Share of Collective Total OPEB Liability	<u>\$ 22,898,704</u>	<u>\$ 19,157,779</u>	<u>\$ 16,210,820</u>

Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of the Collective Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates:

The following presents the Senate's proportionate share of the collective total OPEB liability using the current healthcare cost trend rates as well as what the Senate's proportionate share of the collective total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are one percentage-point lower or one percentage-point higher than the current rates:

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Healthcare Cost Trend Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
State OGB Plan	\$ 3,536,505	\$ 3,917,243	\$ 4,386,511
LSU System Health Plan	12,564,949	15,240,536	18,835,616
Total Proportionate Share of Collective Total OPEB Liability	<u>\$ 16,101,454</u>	<u>\$ 19,157,779</u>	<u>\$ 23,222,127</u>

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6. LITIGATION, CLAIMS, AND SIMILAR CONTINGENCIES:

Losses arising from litigation, claims, and similar contingencies are considered state liabilities and are paid by special appropriations made by the Louisiana Legislature. Any applicable litigation, claims, and similar contingencies are not recognized in the accompanying financial statements.

At June 30, 2023 the Senate, State of Louisiana, was involved in pending and threatened litigation. In the opinion of legal counsel, resolution of the litigation is unlikely to result in material liability to the Senate, State of Louisiana, and, accordingly, is not recorded in the accompanying financial statements.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT:

The Senate limits its exposure to risk of loss through the Office of Risk Management, a statewide insurance program. Through the payment of premiums to the program, the Senate transfers the risk of loss from theft, torts, damage to and destruction of assets, workers' compensation, errors and omissions, and natural disasters.

8. LEASES:

GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*, improves the usefulness of governments' financial statements by requiring the recognition of certain lease assets and liabilities for leases that previously were classified as operating leases. Under this statement, a lessee government will recognize a lease liability and an intangible right of use lease asset and a lessor government will recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources at the beginning of the lease term.

The Senate has adopted the guidelines of the Louisiana Office of Statewide Reporting and Accounting Policy for the GASB Statement No. 87 reporting of leases. Leases with a total contract value (the gross (undiscounted) aggregate value of fixed and fixed-in-substance cash flows remaining over the term of the contract, including reasonably certain renewal periods) of \$100,000 are evaluated for lease reporting under GASB Statement No. 87. Leases with a total contract value under \$100,000 are recorded in the same manner as a short-term lease with rent payments reported as expense or revenue in the statement of activities as those payments are due based on the terms of the lease.

Canon Financial Services Lease

During the year ended June 30, 2021, the Senate entered into a lease agreement with Canon Financial Services for the lease of several copiers. The copiers were leased for a term of 60 months, effective December 30, 2020, at a rate of \$3,747.85 per month. The lease agreement is non-cancelable and the Senate will return the equipment at the end of the lease.

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8. LEASES: (Continued)

Canon Financial Services Lease (Continued)

The lease of the canon copiers is summarized as follows:

<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Payment Terms</u>	<u>Payment Amount</u>	<u>Interest Rate</u>	<u>Lease Liability Total</u>	<u>Lease Liability 6/30/2023</u>
Canon copiers	12/30/2020	60 months	\$ 3,748	4.26%	\$ 202,215	\$ 106,476

As of June 30, 2023, a right of use asset, net of depreciation, of \$101,107, and a lease liability of \$106,476 are recorded in the Senate's Statement of Net Position.

Annual requirements to amortize the long-term obligation and related interest on the lease are as follows:

<u>Year Ending</u>	<u>June 30,</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2024	\$	41,237	\$ 3,737
2025		43,029	1,945
2026		22,210	277
Total	\$	<u>106,476</u>	<u>\$ 5,959</u>

De Lage Landen Public Finance, LLC Lease

During the year ended June 30, 2020, the Senate entered into a lease agreement with De Lage Landen Public Finance, LLC for the lease of a Canon Image Press. The term of the lease agreement was for 60 months in the amount of \$453.47 per month. The lease is recorded in the same manner as a short-term lease, as the total contract value does not exceed the Senate's threshold for leases to be reported under GASB Statement No. 87.

Future minimum lease payments under this non-cancelable operating lease as of June 30, 2023, are as follows:

<u>Year Ending</u>	<u>June 30,</u>	<u>Principal</u>
2024	\$	5,442
2025		5,442
Total	\$	<u>10,884</u>

Expenditures relating to this lease were \$5,442 for the year ended June 30, 2023.

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9. CHANGES IN LONG-TERM LIABILITIES:

The following is a summary of the changes in the Senate's long-term liabilities for the year ended June 30, 2023:

	Balance <u>July 1, 2022</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	Balance <u>June 30, 2023</u>	Due Within <u>One Year</u>
Compensated absences	\$ 1,599,801	\$ 205,366	\$ 291,802	\$ 1,513,365	\$ 162,524
Lease liability	145,997	-	39,521	106,476	41,237
Total long-term liabilities	<u>\$ 1,745,798</u>	<u>\$ 205,366</u>	<u>\$ 331,323</u>	<u>\$ 1,619,841</u>	<u>\$ 203,761</u>

Information about changes in the net pension liability and the OPEB liability are contained in notes 4 and 5, respectively.

10. FUND BALANCE:

As of June 30, 2023, the Senate has an unassigned balance of \$134,756. The fund balance also includes amounts classified as assigned for the following purposes:

Assigned:

Other postemployment benefits obligation	\$ 19,157,779
Compensated absences obligation	<u>1,513,365</u>
Total assigned fund balance	<u>\$ 20,671,144</u>

11. INTERAGENCY TRANSFERS:

Transfers In:

Amounts received from other governmental units for the year ended June 30, 2023, consist of the following:

	Capital <u>Outlay</u>	Operating <u>Services</u>	<u>Total</u>
Other agencies	\$ -	\$ 11,119	\$ 11,119
Legislative Budgetary Control Council	<u>264,574</u>	<u>1,722,909</u>	<u>1,987,483</u>
Total interagency transfers	<u>\$ 264,574</u>	<u>\$ 1,734,028</u>	<u>\$ 1,998,602</u>

The amounts due from Legislative Budgetary Control Council totaled \$63,776 at year-end.

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2023

12. OTHER COSTS:

The State of Louisiana, through other appropriations, provides office space, utilities, and janitorial services for the operations in the State Capitol, all of which are not included in the accompanying financial statements.

13. DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN:

Certain employees of the Senate, State of Louisiana, participate in the Louisiana Public Employees Deferred Compensation Plan adopted under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code Section 457. Complete disclosures relating to the plan are included in the separately issued audit report for the plan, available from the Louisiana Legislative Auditor, Post Office Box 94397, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9397.

14. DEFICIT NET POSITION:

The Senate had a deficit unrestricted net position of \$32,385,908 as of June 30, 2023. This deficit is caused by the long-term liabilities related to pension and other post-employment benefits on the government-wide financial statements.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

	Actual Amounts						Variance with Final Budget
	GAAP Basis	GAAP to Budget Differences		Budgetary Basis	Budgeted Amounts		
		Over (Under)			Original	Final	
<b>REVENUES:</b>							
State appropriations	\$ 25,694,294	\$ -		\$ 25,694,294	\$ 25,694,294	\$ 25,694,294	\$ -
Interest	46,468	-		46,468	-	-	46,468
Other	44,229	-		44,229	-	-	44,229
Reappropriated fund balance (1)	-	15,793,435	(1)	15,793,435	15,793,435	15,793,435	-
Total revenues	<u>25,784,991</u>	<u>15,793,435</u>		<u>41,578,426</u>	<u>41,487,729</u>	<u>41,487,729</u>	<u>90,697</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES:</b>							
Personnel services (2)	19,022,207	469,123	(2)	19,491,330	20,620,011	20,620,011	(1,128,681)
Travel	278,848	-		278,848	350,528	350,528	(71,680)
Operating services	1,871,367	-		1,871,367	4,076,955	4,076,955	(2,205,588)
Supplies	94,331	-		94,331	163,900	163,900	(69,569)
Professional services	229,533	-		229,533	130,000	130,000	99,533
Telephone	105,360	-		105,360	141,750	141,750	(36,390)
Printing	80,888	-		80,888	93,650	93,650	(12,762)
Capital outlay	337,918	-		337,918	117,500	117,500	220,418
Total expenditures	<u>22,020,452</u>	<u>469,123</u>		<u>22,489,575</u>	<u>25,694,294</u>	<u>25,694,294</u>	<u>(3,204,719)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>3,764,539</u>	<u>15,324,312</u>		<u>19,088,851</u>	<u>15,793,435</u>	<u>15,793,435</u>	<u>3,295,416</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES):</b>							
Interagency transfers in	1,998,602	-		1,998,602	-	-	1,998,602
Total other financing sources	<u>1,998,602</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>1,998,602</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,998,602</u>
Net change in fund balance	5,763,141	15,324,312		21,087,453	15,793,435	15,793,435	5,294,018
Fund balances - beginning	15,042,759	750,676	(3)	15,793,435	15,793,435	15,793,435	-
Less reappropriated fund balance	-	(15,793,435)	(1)	(15,793,435)	(15,793,435)	(15,793,435)	-
Fund balances - ending	<u>\$ 20,805,900</u>	<u>\$ 281,553</u>		<u>\$ 21,087,453</u>	<u>\$ 15,793,435</u>	<u>\$ 15,793,435</u>	<u>\$ 5,294,018</u>

Explanation of differences:

- (1) Budgets include reappropriated fund balances carried over from prior years to cover expenditures of the current year. The results of operations on a GAAP basis do not recognize these amounts as revenue since they represent prior period's excess of revenues over expenditures.
- (2) Personnel services and related benefits are budgeted only to the extent expected to be paid, rather than on the modified accrual basis.
- (3) The amount reported as "fund balance" on the budgetary basis of accounting derives from the basis of accounting used in preparing the budget. (See Note 1 for a description of the Senate, State of Louisiana's budgetary accounting method.) This amount differs from the fund balance reported in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance because of the cumulative effect of transactions such as those described above.

SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE  
OF THE COLLECTIVE TOTAL OPEB LIABILITY  
FOR THE SEVEN YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Fiscal Year	Employer's Proportion of the Collective Total OPEB Liability	Employer's Proportionate Share of the Collective Total OPEB Liability	Employer's Covered Payroll	Employer's Proportionate Share of the Collective Total OPEB Liability as a % of its Covered Payroll
<u>State OGB Plan</u>				
2023	0.05800%	\$ 3,917,243	\$ 1,535,964	255.0%
2022	0.05400%	4,940,291	1,632,169	302.7%
2021	0.05820%	4,822,066	1,445,486	333.6%
2020	0.06647%	5,133,073	1,491,906	344.1%
2019	0.07000%	5,974,126	1,543,819	387.0%
2018	0.07080%	6,157,107	1,520,038	405.1%
2017	0.07080%	6,427,878	1,458,966	440.6%
 <u>LSU System Health Plan</u>				
2023	1.82285%	\$ 15,240,536	\$ 8,963,733	170.0%
2022	1.82621%	14,919,906	9,129,278	163.4%
2021	2.78815%	41,017,228	9,534,119	430.2%
2020	2.74838%	38,536,826	9,388,067	410.5%
2019	2.17863%	23,821,149	9,763,207	244.0%
2018	2.15960%	21,070,510	9,798,446	215.0%
2017	2.14449%	21,644,753	9,744,582	222.1%

The schedule is intended to report information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

The amounts presented for the State OGB Plan have a measurement date of the previous fiscal year while the amounts for the LSU System Health Plan have a measurement date of the current fiscal year.

See accompanying notes.

SENATE  
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NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE  
OF THE COLLECTIVE TOTAL OPEB LIABILITY  
JUNE 30, 2023

1. STATE OGB PLAN:

There are no assets accumulated in a trust that meets the requirements in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement No. 75 to pay benefits.

Changes in Assumptions:

- The valuation report as of July 1, 2017 increased the discount rate from 2.71% to 3.13%.
- The valuation report as of July 1, 2018 made the following changes:
  - (a) The discount rate decreased from 3.13% to 2.98%.
  - (b) Baseline per capita costs were adjusted to reflect 2018 claims and enrollment, and retiree contributions were updated based on 2019 premiums. The impact of the high-cost excise tax was revisited, reflecting updated plan premiums.
  - (c) The percentage of future retirees assumed to elect medical coverage was adjusted based on recent plan experience.
  - (d) Demographic assumptions were revised for the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, Louisiana School Employees Retirement System, and Louisiana State Police Retirement System to reflect recent experience studies.
  - (e) Mortality assumptions for members in LASERS were updated from using projection scale MP-2017 to using projection scale MP-2018.
- The valuation report as of July 1, 2019 made the following changes:
  - (a) The discount rate decreased from 2.98% to 2.79%.
  - (b) Baseline per capita costs were adjusted to reflect 2019 claims and enrollment, and retiree contributions were updated based on 2020 premiums.
  - (c) Life insurance contributions were updated to reflect 2020 premium schedules.
  - (d) The impact of the High-Cost Excise Tax was removed. The High-Cost Excise Tax was repealed in December 2019.
  - (e) Demographic assumptions were revised for the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System to reflect recent experience studies.

SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE  
OF THE COLLECTIVE TOTAL OPEB LIABILITY  
JUNE 30, 2023

1. STATE OGB PLAN: (Continued)

*Changes in Assumptions*: (Continued)

- The valuation report as of July 1, 2020 made the following changes:
  - (a) The discount rate decreased from 2.79% to 2.66%.
  - (b) Baseline per capita costs were adjusted to reflect 2020 claims and enrollment, and retiree contributions were updated based on 2021 premiums. 2020 medical claims and enrollment experience were reviewed but not included in the projection of expected 2021 plan costs. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this experience was not believed to be reflective of what can be expected in future years.
  - (c) The salary scale assumptions were revised for the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System and the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana.
  - (d) Medical participation rates, life participation rates, the age difference between future retirees and their spouses, Medicare eligibility rates, and medical plan election percentages have all been updated based on a review of OPEB experience from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020.
- The valuation report as of July 1, 2021 made the following changes:
  - (a) The discount rate decreased from 2.66% to 2.18%.
  - (b) Baseline per capita costs were adjusted to reflect 2021 claims and enrollment.
  - (c) Medical plan election percentages were updated based on the coverage elections of recent retirees.
  - (d) The healthcare cost trend rate assumption was revised based on updated National Health Care Trend Survey information.
- The valuation report as of July 1, 2022 made the following changes:
  - (a) The discount rate increased from 2.18% to 4.09%, since the previous valuation.
  - (b) Baseline per capita costs and medical plan percentages were updated to reflect 2022 claims and enrollment.

SENATE  
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NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE  
OF THE COLLECTIVE TOTAL OPEB LIABILITY  
JUNE 30, 2023

1. STATE OGB PLAN: (Continued)

*Changes in Assumptions:* (Continued)

- (c) Medical plan election percentages were updated based on the coverage elections of recent retirees and a review of the past three years of experience.
- (d) The withdrawal assumption for LASERS Wildlife participants and the mortality rate assumptions for LASERS Public Safety participants have been updated.

2. LSU SYSTEM HEALTH PLAN:

There are no assets accumulated in a trust that meets the requirements in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement No. 75 to pay benefits.

*Changes in Assumptions:*

- The valuation report as of June 30, 2018 made the following changes:
  - (a) Increased the discount rate from 3.58% to 3.90%.
  - (b) Updated the plan design changes as of January 1, 2018.
  - (c) Updated claim costs for the expected retiree health costs.
  - (d) Census changes since the last evaluation.
- The valuation report as of June 30, 2019 decreased the discount rate from 3.90% to 3.50%.
- The valuation report as of June 30, 2020 made the following changes:
  - (a) Decreased the discount rate from 3.50% to 2.21%.
  - (b) The retirement rates were updated to the most recent rates from LASERS and TRSL Actuarial Valuations.
  - (c) The mortality assumptions were updated from RP-2014 mortality table with generational scale MP-2018 to the Pub-2010 mortality table with generational scale MP-2019 to reflect the Society of Actuaries' recent mortality study.

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NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE  
OF THE COLLECTIVE TOTAL OPEB LIABILITY  
JUNE 30, 2023

2. LSU SYSTEM HEALTH PLAN: (Continued)

*Changes in Assumptions:* (Continued)

- The valuation report as of June 30, 2021 decreased the discount rate from 2.21% to 2.16%
- The valuation report as of June 30, 2022 made the following changes:
  - (a) Increased discount rate from 2.16% to 3.54%.
  - (b) The retirement table of Judges group was corrected slightly to align with the rates as presented in the 2021 pension valuation reports.
  - (c) The trend rates were reset to an initial rate of 7.00% (6.00% for post-Medicare), grading down by 0.25% per year until reaching the ultimate rate of 4.00% based on current Healthcare Analytics (HCA) Consulting trend study; current economic environment suggests a longer period until reaching the ultimate rate. Additionally, the Getzen model was utilized to determine an appropriate long-term ultimate trend.
  - (d) The payroll growth increases were updated to match the LASERS and TRSL Actuarial Valuations accordingly.
  - (e) Participation rates were updated based on 5 years of historical uptake information, broken out members years of service to properly allocate subsidies based on subsidy eligibility.
  - (f) The mortality projection scale was updated from MP-2019 to MP-2021 to reflect the Society of Actuaries' recent mortality study.
- The valuation report as of June 30, 2023, increased the discount rate from 3.54% to 3.65%

SENATE  
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REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE  
OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY  
FOR THE TEN YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Fiscal Year	Employer's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	Employer's Covered Payroll	Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a % of its Covered Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a % of the Total Pension Liability
<u>LASERS:</u>					
2023	0.40179%	\$ 30,374,438	\$ 9,598,072	316.5%	63.7%
2022	0.41101%	22,621,781	9,805,008	230.7%	72.8%
2021	0.44895%	37,130,915	9,601,717	386.7%	58.0%
2020	0.46924%	33,995,814	9,851,421	345.1%	62.9%
2019	0.47829%	32,619,302	10,219,058	319.2%	64.3%
2018	0.49362%	34,744,930	9,860,823	352.4%	62.5%
2017	0.49267%	38,687,324	10,222,982	378.4%	57.7%
2016	0.48757%	33,162,188	9,955,464	333.1%	62.7%
2015	0.48485%	30,317,145	9,817,735	308.8%	65.0%
2014	0.43286%	31,532,519	9,391,283	335.8%	58.6%
<u>TRSL:</u>					
2023	0.00059%	\$ 56,711	\$ 35,607	159.3%	72.4%
2022	0.00060%	31,926	33,912	94.1%	83.9%
2021	0.00060%	66,408	33,539	198.0%	65.6%
2020	0.00060%	59,349	81,422	72.9%	68.6%
2019	0.00333%	327,175	155,683	210.2%	68.2%
2018	0.00335%	343,848	163,474	210.3%	65.6%
2017	0.00426%	499,761	181,212	275.8%	59.9%
2016	0.00413%	443,531	180,461	245.8%	62.5%
2015	0.00405%	414,070	174,276	237.6%	63.7%
2014	0.00383%	457,495	165,922	275.7%	56.5%

The amounts presented have a measurement date of the previous fiscal year.

See accompanying notes.

SENATE  
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REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS  
FOR THE TEN YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Fiscal Year	Contractually Required Contribution	Contributions in Relation to Contractually Required Contribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Employer's Covered Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
<u>LASERS:</u>					
2023	\$ 3,788,777	\$ 3,788,777	\$ -	\$ 9,301,234	40.7%
2022	3,778,689	3,778,689	-	9,598,072	39.4%
2021	4,015,841	4,015,841	-	9,805,008	41.0%
2020	4,166,409	4,166,409	-	9,601,717	43.4%
2019	3,763,437	3,763,437	-	9,851,421	38.2%
2018	3,832,806	3,832,806	-	10,219,058	37.5%
2017	3,541,955	3,541,955	-	9,860,823	35.9%
2016	3,832,464	3,832,464	-	10,222,982	37.5%
2015	3,707,658	3,707,658	-	9,955,464	37.2%
2014	3,092,402	3,092,402	-	9,817,735	31.5%
<u>TRSL:</u>					
2023	\$ 13,622	\$ 13,622	\$ -	\$ 52,960	25.7%
2022	9,925	9,925	-	35,607	27.9%
2021	9,754	9,754	-	33,912	28.8%
2020	9,914	9,914	-	33,539	29.6%
2019	30,756	30,756	-	81,422	37.8%
2018	41,970	41,970	-	155,683	27.0%
2017	42,274	42,274	-	163,474	25.9%
2016	50,136	50,136	-	181,212	27.7%
2015	50,827	50,827	-	180,461	28.2%
2014	51,347	51,347	-	174,276	29.5%

See accompanying notes.

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NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY  
AND SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS  
JUNE 30, 2023

1. CHANGES OF BENEFIT TERMS:

LASERS:

- (a) A 1.5% COLA, effective July 1, 2014, provided by Act 102 of the 2014 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session.
- (b) A 1.5% COLA, effective July 1, 2016, provided by Acts 93 and 512 of the 2016 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session.
- (c) Act 37 of the 2021 Regular Session provided a monthly benefit increase to retirees that on June 30, 2021, have attained age 60, have 30 or more years of service, have been retired 15 or more years, receive a monthly benefit less than \$1,450, and have not participated in DROP or the Initial Benefit Option. The benefit increase is the lesser of \$300 per month or the amount needed to increase the monthly benefit to \$1,450.
- (d) Act 656 of the 2022 Regular Session provided a one-time supplemental payment equal to the lesser of the retiree's or beneficiary's monthly benefit, or \$2,000. Eligibility is based on the current statutory COLA eligibility requirements.

TRSL:

- (a) A 1.5% COLA, effective July 1, 2014, provided by Act 204 of the 2014 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session.
- (b) The 2015 valuation incorporates a change providing that members employed on or after July 1, 2015 may retire at age 62 with a 2.5% benefit factor with at least 5 years of service credit or at any age after 20 years of service credit (actuarially reduced).
- (c) A 1.5% COLA, effective July 1, 2016, provided by Acts 93 and 512 of the 2016 Louisiana Regular Legislative Session.
- (d) Act 657 of the 2022 Regular Session granted a 2% permanent benefit increase (COLA), effective July 1, 2022, to eligible TRSL retirees, beneficiaries, and survivors calculated on the first \$68,396 of their annual benefit.

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NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY  
AND SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS  
JUNE 30, 2023

2. CHANGES IN ASSUMPTIONS:

LASERS:

- (a) Effective July 1, 2017, the LASERS board adopted a plan to gradually reduce the discount rate from 7.75% to 7.50% in .05% annual increments. Therefore, the discount rate was reduced from 7.75% to 7.70% for the June 30, 2017 valuation, reduced to 7.65% for the June 30, 2018 valuation, reduced to 7.60% for the June 30, 2019 valuation, and reduced to 7.55% for the June 30, 2020 valuation. The discount rate used to determine the projected contribution requirements for fiscal year 2022 was reduced beyond the original plan to 7.40%. The discount rate used to determine the projected contribution requirements for fiscal year 2023 was reduced beyond the original plan to 7.25%.
- (b) Effective July 1, 2017, the LASERS Board reduced the inflation assumption from 3.00% to 2.75%. The inflation rate was reduced to 2.50% for the June 30, 2019 valuation. The inflation rate was reduced from 2.50% to 2.30%, effective July 1, 2019.
- (c) Effective July 1, 2017, the projected contribution requirement includes direct funding of administrative expenses, rather than a reduction in the assumed rate of return, per Act 94 of 2016.
- (d) Salary increases used to measure the total pension liability changed from a range of 3.00% to 14.50% in the 2016 valuation to a range of 2.80% to 14.30% in the 2017 valuation. Salary increases used to measure the total pension liability changed to a range of 2.80% to 14.00% in the June 30, 2019 valuation. Salary increases used to measure the total pension liability changed to a range of 2.60% to 13.80% in the June 30, 2020 valuation.
- (e) Retirement, termination, disability, inflation, salary increase, and expected service life assumptions and methods were updated with the June 30, 2019, valuation to reflect the results of the most recent experience study observed for the period of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2018.
- (f) Effective July 1, 2018, the LASERS Board reduced the expected remaining service lives from 3 years to 2 years.
- (g) Act 95 of the 2016 Regular Session requires re-amortization of the OAB with level-dollar payments to 2029 when such re-amortization results in annual payments that are not more than the next annual payment otherwise required under prior law. For the June 30, 2021 valuation, this criterion was met after allocating legislative appropriations and investment experience gains to this schedule. The schedule was re-amortized with level dollar payments to be paid off 2029.

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NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY  
AND SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS  
JUNE 30, 2023

2. CHANGES IN ASSUMPTIONS: (Continued)

LASERS: (Continued)

- (h) Effective July 1, 2022, the LASERS Board reduced the discount rate from 7.40% to 7.25%. This change was anticipated in the prior valuation when determining the projected contribution requirements for fiscal year 2023 and is also used to determine the projected contribution requirements for fiscal year 2024.

TRSL:

- (a) Effective July 1, 2017, the projected contribution requirement includes direct funding of administrative expenses, rather than a reduction in the assumed rate of return, per Act 94 of 2016.
- (b) Effective July 1, 2017, the TRSL board adopted a plan to gradually reduce the discount rate from 7.75% to 7.50% in .05% annual increments. Therefore, the discount rate was reduced from 7.75% to 7.70% for the June 30, 2017 valuation and reduced to 7.65% for the June 30, 2018 valuation. On November 1, 2018, the TRSL board accelerated the discount rate reduction plan by one year and a 7.55% was used to determine the projected contribution requirements for the June 30, 2019 valuation. On January 9, 2020, the TRSL board accelerated the discount rate reduction plan and a 7.45% rate was used to determine the projected actuarially required contribution rates for the June 30, 2020 valuation. The TRSL board adopted a reduction in the discount rate to 7.40% for purposes of determining the projected contribution requirements for fiscal year 2022. The discount rate used to determine the projected contribution requirements for fiscal year 2023 was reduced beyond the original plan to 7.25%.
- (c) Demographic, mortality, and salary assumptions were updated beginning with the June 30, 2018, valuation to reflect the results of the most recent experience study observed for the period of July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2017.
- (d) Effective June 30, 2020, the inflation assumption was reduced from 2.50% to 2.30% and all salary assumptions were reduced by 0.20%.
- (e) Two triggers set by Act 95 of the 2016 Regular Session were met on June 30, 2021. Since the funded ratio reached 70%, the amortization period for changes in assumptions, experience losses, and most experience gains reduced from 30 years to 20 years. In addition, the OAB was re-amortized with level-dollar payments to 2029 since this re-amortization resulted in annual payments which are less than the fiscal year 2022 payments that would have been required without the re-amortization.

SENATE  
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NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY  
AND SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS  
JUNE 30, 2023

2. CHANGES IN ASSUMPTIONS: (Continued)

TRSL: (Continued)

- (f) Effective June 30, 2022, the discount rate was reduced from 7.40% to 7.25%. This change was anticipated in the determination of the projected contribution requirements for fiscal year 2023.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF SENATORS' PER DIEM AND OTHER COMPENSATION  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

Senator	Total	Regular Session		Special Session #1		Interim		Travel		Salary and Expense Allowance
		Per Diem	Per Diem	Per Diem	Per Diem	Per Diem	Per Diem			
		Days	Amount	Days	Amount	Days	Amount	Days	Amount	
Abraham, Mark T	\$ 37,136	60	\$ 10,500	5	\$ 875	17	\$ 2,961	-	\$ -	\$ 22,800
Allain II, Robert L.	37,647	60	10,500	5	875	20	3,472	-	-	22,800
Barrow, Regina A	41,140	60	10,500	5	875	20	3,486	20	3,479	22,800
Bernard, Louis C	37,108	60	10,500	5	875	17	2,933	-	-	22,800
Boudreaux, Gerald R.	40,251	60	10,500	5	875	29	5,026	6	1,050	22,800
Bouie, Jr., Joseph	36,422	60	10,500	5	875	9	1,547	4	700	22,800
Carter, Jr., Gary	37,094	60	10,500	5	875	11	1,911	6	1,008	22,800
Cathey, Jr., Stewart	37,297	60	10,500	5	875	9	1,547	9	1,575	22,800
Cloud, Heather M	37,311	60	10,500	5	875	16	2,786	2	350	22,800
Connick, John P	34,868	60	10,500	5	875	4	693	-	-	22,800
Cortez, Patrick P.	56,487	60	10,500	5	875	31	5,362	10	1,750	38,000
Duplessis, Royce	25,068	60	10,500	5	875	-	-	4	700	12,993
Fesi, Michael A.	37,801	60	10,500	5	875	16	2,786	5	840	22,800
Fields, Cleo	35,400	60	10,500	5	875	3	525	4	700	22,800
Foil, Franklin J.	38,851	60	10,500	5	875	18	3,129	9	1,547	22,800
Harris, III, James C.	37,304	60	10,500	5	875	13	2,254	5	875	22,800
Henry, John C.	35,918	60	10,500	5	875	10	1,743	-	-	22,800
Hensgens, Craig	35,904	60	10,500	5	875	10	1,729	-	-	22,800
Hewitt, Sharon W.	36,772	60	10,500	5	875	13	2,247	2	350	22,800
Jackson, Katrina R	35,386	60	10,500	5	875	7	1,211	-	-	22,800
Kleinpeter, Caleb S.	24,718	60	10,500	5	875	2	350	-	-	12,993
Lambert, Eddie J.	34,868	60	10,500	5	875	4	693	-	-	22,800
Luneau, Wendell Jay	38,137	60	10,500	5	875	14	2,422	9	1,540	22,800
McMath, Patrick M.	38,515	60	10,500	5	875	18	3,115	7	1,225	22,800
Milligan, Barry S	41,133	60	10,500	5	875	33	5,733	7	1,225	22,800
Mills, Jr., Fred H.	36,268	60	10,500	5	875	12	2,093	-	-	22,800
Mills, Robert	37,500	60	10,500	5	875	6	1,050	13	2,275	22,800
Mizell, Mary Beth S	52,081	60	10,500	5	875	25	4,326	34	5,880	30,500
Morris, John C.	35,218	60	10,500	5	875	3	518	3	525	22,800
Peacock, Russell Barrow	37,997	60	10,500	5	875	18	3,122	4	700	22,800
Pope, James, R.	37,990	60	10,500	5	875	22	3,815	-	-	22,800
Price, Edward J.	38,165	60	10,500	5	875	11	1,911	12	2,079	22,800
Reese, Michael D	38,683	60	10,500	5	875	22	3,808	4	700	22,800
Smith Jr., Gary L.	37,129	60	10,500	5	875	17	2,954	-	-	22,800
Stine, Jeremy	35,547	60	10,500	5	875	4	700	4	672	22,800

(Continued)

SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
SCHEDULE OF SENATORS' PER DIEM AND OTHER COMPENSATION  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

(Continued)

Senator	Total	Regular Session		Special Session #1		Interim		Travel		Salary and Expense Allowance
		Per Diem		Per Diem		Per Diem		Per Diem		
		Days	Amount	Days	Amount	Days	Amount	Days	Amount	
Talbot, Michael K	38,326	60	10,500	5	875	20	3,451	4	700	22,800
Tarver, Gregory W	34,525	60	10,500	5	875	2	350	-	-	22,800
White Jr., Mack A.	64,961	60	10,500	5	875	16	2,786	-	-	50,800
Womack, Glen D.	37,829	60	10,500	5	875	21	3,654	-	-	22,800
	<u>\$ 1,490,755</u>		<u>\$ 409,500</u>		<u>\$ 34,125</u>		<u>\$ 94,199</u>		<u>\$ 32,445</u>	<u>\$ 920,486</u>



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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

December 21, 2023

Honorable Patrick Page Cortez  
President of the Senate, State of Louisiana  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Senate, State of Louisiana, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Senate, State of Louisiana's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 21, 2023.

### Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Senate, State of Louisiana's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Senate, State of Louisiana's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Senate, State of Louisiana's internal control.

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Society of LA CPAs

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Senate, State of Louisiana's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor as a public document.



New Orleans, Louisiana

SENATE  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2023

SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS:

1. The opinion issued on the financial statements of the Senate, State of Louisiana, for the year ended June 30, 2023 was unmodified.
2. Compliance and Other Matters  
Noncompliance material to financial statements: none noted
3. Internal Control  
Material weaknesses: none noted  
Significant deficiencies: none noted

FINDINGS REQUIRED TO BE REPORTED UNDER GENERALLY ACCEPTED GOVERNMENTAL AUDITING STANDARDS:

None

SUMMARY OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS:

None