Retired Public Employees Council
Chapter 45 – Ferry County
Bobbi Weller, President (509)-775-3690

Please join us for a special meeting on June 5th in Republic. Our guest speaker will be RPEC Executive Director, Maria Britton-Sipe. Please take a few moments to read her message below and plan to attend the June 5th meeting, if at all possible.

Bobbi Weller, President Chapter 45

Medicare and Social Security are being seriously attacked, health insurance premiums continue to climb, and retirement security continues to be undermined. Our organization is working to protect the benefits you earned, but all of our power comes from members. Therefore, we are asking members to:

Please attend the meeting to hear specifics on the attacks and our strategic plan.
Our strength is your Retirement Security

Maria Britton-Sipe, RPEC Executive Director

Upcoming Chapter Meetings: September 18, 2017, November 6, 2017, April 2, 2018, June 18, 2018

RPEC UPDATE

The Washington State Legislature is now in special session which is expected to last until a budget has been worked out between the Senate and the House and then passed. Unfortunately, many anticipate that budget negotiators will want to take into account the June 20th revenue forecast, meaning special sessions will go at least until June 20th.

The following bills we supported passed:
SB 5177 Requiring long-term care workers be trained to recognize hearing loss.
HB 1153 Concerning crimes against vulnerable persons
SB 5274 Defining Salary for purposes of the Washington State Patrol retirement system

There is legislation we are supporting that could still be passed, including:
HB 2114 Protects consumers from charges for out-of-network services.
HB 1541 Addressing prescription drug cost transparency.
HB 1560 Addressing the plan default provisions in the PERS, TRS, and SERS.

Federal Level: House leaders succeeded on May 4th in mustering enough votes to narrowly pass HR 1628 - American Health Care Act of 2017, (the repeal and replacement of the ACA/"ObamaCare"), in the House of Representatives with a 217-213 vote. While they publically celebrated their victory of robbing 24 million Americans of health care, gutting $883 million from Medicaid, and drive up premium costs for low-income and older Americans, there is still a ways to go before this disastrous bill becomes law. RPEC will continue to alert members as attacks to these vital benefits arise. Seniors have proven in the past that they will not back down from protecting these programs, and we will need to do so again.

RPEC is asking members to continue to put pressure on their members of Congress to oppose any proposal that weakens healthcare coverage and access. We will be keeping members informed via Legislative Alerts. If you have email and you have not received our alerts, please feel free to call the

office at 800-562-8262 to sign up. While many Chapters do not meet during the summer, the legislature, Congress, the Select Committee for Pension Policy (SCPP), the Washington State Investment Board (WSIB), the Public Employee Benefit Board, and other committees/boards/organizations that deal with issues pertinent to you will be meeting. We therefore encourage you to sign up for this monthly letter via email by contacting the office.

Sincerely,

Maria Britton-Sipe
Executive Director-Retired Public Employees Council of Washington

Retired Public Employees Council
Chapter 45 – Ferry County

Meeting Date:	**Monday, June 5th**
Meeting Time:	**Noon**
Meeting Place:	**Freckles' Gourmet BBQ**
Meeting Address:	**18 N Clark Ave, Republic, WA 99166**
Speaker:	Maria Britton-Sipe, RPEC Executive Director