

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/31/2023 12:14 PM

Council File No: 23-1131

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Council Members, Please approve the request of LACERS members to have the retirees hired before April 1, 1986 be reimbursed for their Medicare Part B premium, as well as reimburse the Income-related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA). The following are my reasons for this request: The City did not give an option for employees hired before April 1, 1986 to pay Medicare taxes that resulted in them not having the Medicare Hospital Insurance upon retiring and reaching the age of 65. The City could have decided to request the Social Security Administration to have these employees pay Medicare taxes in order have the Hospital Insurance. However the City decided not to make such request. Therefore, In my opinion, it is incumbent for the City to also reimburse the Medicare Part B Premium for these retirees, and not only for those retirees hired after April 1, 1986 who were mandated to pay the Medicare taxes. Another argument that I have is that under normal circumstances, employees who have more seniority have more or enhanced benefits than employees hired at a later date. This should also apply in this situation, i.e., retirees hired before April 1, 1986 should also have their Medicare Part B premium reimbursed just as those retirees hired after April 1, 1986, even if they were exempted from paying Medicare taxes, again not by their choice. Lastly, in time, the City will have zero cost for this reimbursement as retirees that belong to this group will only decrease in number, as they age. For the meantime, however, it will greatly enhance the quality of life for these seniors. I hope for your favorable response. Thank you.