



## Redesigned Benefit Statement

GARS is pleased to provide you with a newly designed Benefit Statement with this newsletter. This statement contains detailed information about your pension plan as of June 30, 2014. Future active statements will be issued in August each year. If you have questions about your statement, you can contact us at 217-782-8500. A brief overview of each section is listed on the next page.



After the Circuit Court ruled that the pension reform legislation was unconstitutional, the State immediately appealed to the Supreme Court who decided to start the pension reform case briefing schedule on January 12, with oral arguments set to begin in March. The plaintiffs had argued against an expedited timetable.

## The Member Services Website



SRS recently announced the rollout of a new Member Services Website which currently allows retirees and survivors to access account details and manage their account.

In the very near future, GARS active members will be able to access account details and manage their GARS account. You will be able to connect to the SRS Member Services website by navigating to our home

page at <https://memberservices.srs.illinois.gov>, to view your online account. Once you connect to this site you must create an Illinois Public Account number. You complete this one-time registration process during your first sign-on to your online account information.

If you already have an Illinois Public Account you can use this number to sign into the SRS Member Services website. We will notify you when this new feature is activated.

## GARS Needs Your Contact Information

GARS wants your email address and phone number to keep you informed of the latest news, upcoming deadlines and important issues taking place here at GARS. We assure you that your information is secure and for internal use only. Please complete the Contact Information form on the home page of our website.



The "State Retirement Systems of Illinois" is on Facebook! Search for us on your Facebook page and then 'like' or 'follow' us. News updates will then be automatically posted to your Facebook page.



Your named beneficiaries on file with GARS are located in the Beneficiary Information section of your Statement. You may change your beneficiaries at any time by completing a new Nomination of Beneficiaries form on our website and filing it with GARS.

It is your responsibility to keep your designations up-to-date. If no beneficiary is on file, death benefits will be paid to your estate. It's possible that you could have different beneficiaries in addition to your GARS benefits, i.e. Group Life Insurance and Deferred Compensation.

