



# Taxpayers United of America

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February 6, 2012

Honorable John Kasich  
77 South High Street  
Columbus, OH 43215-6117

Re: Release of Public Employee Pension Information and Pension Reform

Dear Governor Kasich,

I am Vice President of Taxpayers United of America (TUA), one of the largest taxpayer organizations in the U.S. We thank you for your focus on jobs and responsible spending of taxpayer funds.

In the past year, we of TUA have travelled to many states to research and publicize public employee pensions. We have often found that government pensions are higher than private sector salaries! In response to our FOIA requests, we have generally received the information requested, including the “Top 100” government salaries and the “Top 100” government pensions.

Some states readily recognize individual pension payouts as public information, since they are paid for with taxpayer dollars. They readily make them available for public view. Sadly, this is not the case in Ohio.

In your welcome message on your website, you welcome and encourage suggestions for improving Ohio and its financial outlook.

I am taking you up on that offer:

- Please release Ohio’s pension information.
- Please take the lead in your state on meaningful pension reforms that include ending defined benefit pensions for new hires, increase employee contributions by 10%, and increase employee and retiree portion of healthcare premiums to 50%.

It would be greatly appreciated if you would have your staff contact me, so we can discuss these matters.

Thank you,

Christina Tobin, Vice President