

Dear Senate Executive Committee,

Last month, the Public Employees' and Retirees' Benefit Sustainability Commission released its 2010 Interim Report, which recommends significant changes to the State of Maryland's pension and health insurance benefits. We, the Libraries' Senators, request that the Senate Executive Committee investigate the Interim Report and take action as the Committee sees fit, specifically regarding those portions of the report recommending the reduction of retirement and health benefits and the increase of premiums, which will adversely affect all staff at the University of Maryland. The report is available online at:
<http://mlis.state.md.us/other/BenefitsSustainabilityCommission/2010InterimReport.pdf>

After years of furloughs, salary freezes, and hiring freezes, the Commission's report recommends additional reductions of wages and fringe benefits. One can easily predict how such changes will negatively influence the University's ability to recruit and retain faculty and staff.

Many thanks for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Vincent Novara, Senator, Libraries
Sharon Epps, Senator, Libraries
Tim Hackman, Senator, Libraries
Stephen Henry, Senator, Libraries
Terry Owen, Senator, Libraries