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THANK YOU TEACHERS
TEACHER
APPRECIATION WEEK



Thank You Educators and School Personnel

May 5-9, 2025, marks **Teacher Appreciation Week** and there's no better time for NRTA to underscore our appreciation for the opportunity to work with age 50-plus educators and Retired Educator Associations (REAs) across the nation.

During their working years, educators are deeply committed, caring professionals who give so much to our nation's children and their communities. And in retirement, educators keep working to protect critical retirement and healthcare benefits, to address growing caregiving challenges, and to volunteer countless hours in communities.

Please accept NRTA's deepest thanks for your service and caring in your schools and

Also, Teacher Appreciation Week is the perfect time to strengthen connections between educators and your REA. Recognizing teachers not only boosts morale, but it can also help increase awareness of the valuable resources and support from REAs. Thoughtful gestures, events, and even small tokens of appreciation can go a long way in fostering engagement and building lasting relationships. If you are planning any special Teacher Appreciation Week activities, we'd love to hear about it. Please [email us](#) any photos and information on how you're commemorating the week.

Finally, for your convenience we've assembled [social media images and posts](#) for Teacher Appreciation Week in case they're helpful for you to share on your social media channels.

Thank you educators! Your contributions are immeasurable.



NEW Video for Teacher Appreciation Week Highlights

Caring and Service of Retired Educators

We invite you to watch and share a powerful [new video](#) from NRTA featuring the Baxter County Retired Teachers Association (BCRTA), located in Mountain Home, Arkansas. In the video, Carol Wegerer, President of BCRTA, tells the story of an educator service project with a local high school to establish the Lucas Todd Thrift school for students in need.

Named for a student who passed away as a result of a pedestrian accident, the store not only allows students to secure items they need, it teaches them what it feels like to help others.

"I think all teachers want to improve the lives of kids, and you don't lose that just because

“I would tell anybody going into retirement, find a passion. Encourage doing things in your community and doing things with students,” Carol said in the video.

We encourage you to share this video with educators and your stakeholders during Teacher Appreciation Week and beyond. For your convenience, we've also prepared a [shorter version of the video](#) that speaks broadly to the service impact of retired educators that you also can share.

If you have any questions about this video or community service, please contact NRTA Senior Advisor [Mary Beth Dixon](#).



On the Federal Level | AARP Thanks SSA, Endorses Bill to Help Older Americans

AARP Thanks SSA for Responding to Concerns on Identity Proofing

AARP recently [sent a letter](#) to Acting Social Security Administration (SSA) Commissioner Lee Dudek thanking him for his response to concerns raised by older Americans and reversing course on in-person or online identity proofing requirements for benefit claims. AARP indicated that the decision will make a meaningful difference for millions of individuals who count on their hard-earned Social Security benefits.

AARP also noted the need for SSA to consider the needs of older Americans as they implement new tools and technologies. Specifically, AARP encourages the agency to

AARP Endorses Reintroduced Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act

On April 28, 2025, AARP [sent a letter](#) endorsing the reintroduced Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act (AHCIA) to bill sponsors Senators Todd Young (R-IN) and Maria Cantwell (D-WA). The bipartisan bill strengthens and expands the Low Income Housing Tax Credit, which leverages private sector investment to build and preserve affordable homes.

AHCIA would help build nearly two million new affordable homes over the next decade. Seven million older Americans rent their homes. More than half of these older Americans pay roughly a third of their income on housing expenses, and more than one-third pay more than half of their income on housing expenses.

AARP Endorses GUARD Act

Last month, AARP [sent a letter](#) to Representatives Nunn (R-IA) and Gottheimer (D-NJ) endorsing the GUARD Act. According to the Federal Trade Commission, an estimated \$61.5 billion dollars was stolen from Americans aged 60 and older in 2023, and too few of these cases were investigated by law enforcement.

This bipartisan legislation will empower state and local law enforcement with federal grants that will allow them to hire staff, train them, and secure specialized software and other tools to improve their capacity to conduct fraud investigations. This will ensure law enforcement have the tools they need to lock up the criminals who victimize America's seniors. If you have any questions, please contact [Clark Flynt-Barr](#) in Government Affairs.

If you have question on any federal or state advocacy issue, contact NRTA Senior Legislative Representative [Adam Goldberg](#).

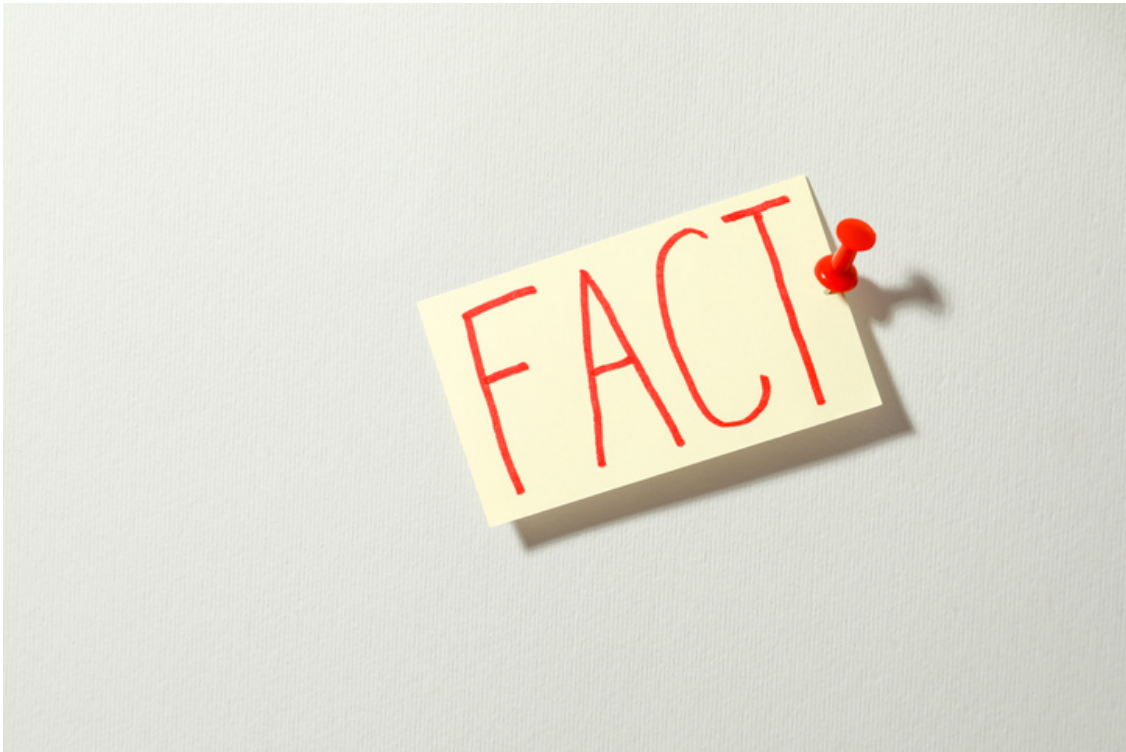


We know educators across the country face a number of key issues and have a wide variety of interests. We invite you to access the wealth of resources from AARP and NRTA for educators:

Work and Jobs offers resources to help 50-plus educators and their families who need expert career advice and find [job-search tools](#), [career tools](#), [small business](#) help and ideas, and information on [age discrimination](#).

Travel Resources with a wealth of information on [travel tips](#), [vacation ideas](#), and current developments like [Real ID requirements](#).

Medicare Tools and Resources like the [Medicare Enrollment Guide](#), [webinars](#), and [prescription drug](#) information.



Webinar Replay and New State Retirement and Pension Fact Sheets

NRTA: *AARP's Educator Community* and the National Institute on Retirement Security ([NIRS](#)) partnered to develop new state retirement and pension fact sheets for educators. These fact sheets are a proven tool for educating policymakers and key stakeholders about educator retirement benefits, including pension plans.

We invite you to [download your state fact sheet](#). We also invite you to [watch and share a webinar replay](#) that provides an in-depth review of the fact sheets.

nation, including teacher pension plans. Each state fact sheet includes key data from NIRS research and other sources such as:

- Funding sources of pension plans
- The economic impact of pensions
- Historical funding experience and recent changes to retirement systems
- How pensions contribute to quality education and support teacher recruitment and retention

Please contact NRTA Senior Legislative Representative [Adam Goldberg](#) if you have questions or if we can be of assistance on advocacy issues.

Questions

As always, the NRTA Team is available to answer your questions or provide counsel on issues. Below is our contact information:

Alfred Campos, Director | 202-434-3931 | acampos@aarp.org

Mary Beth Dixon, Senior Advisor | 202-434-2380 | mdixon@aarp.org

Adam Goldberg, Senior Legislative Representative | 202.434.3917 | agoldberg@aarp.org



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