

MEMORANDUM #10, 2012

Commonwealth of Massachusetts | Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission
Five Middlesex Avenue, Suite 304, Somerville, MA 02145
Ph 617 666 4446 | Fax 617 628 4002 | TTY 617 591 8917 | www.mass.gov/perac

Domenic J. F. Russo, *Chairman*

Auditor Suzanne M. Bump | Alan Macdonald | James M. Machado | Donald R. Marquis | Robert B. McCarthy |
Gregory R. Mennis

Joseph E. Connarton, *Executive Director*

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Retirement Boards

FROM: Joseph E. Connarton, Executive Director

RE: 2012 Limits under Chapter 46 of the Acts of 2002

DATE: January 18, 2012

Prior PERAC Memos (# 27/2002, # 45/2002, and #17/2003) briefly outlined Chapter 46 of the Acts of 2002. This law brought the Massachusetts Retirement Law into compliance with Federal Limitations on the compensation used to calculate retirement allowances and the dollar amounts of retirement allowances. This provision affects only the highest paid employees and will not apply to most retirement systems and most retirement system members.

The regulations regarding Section 401(a)(17) (compensation limit) and Section 415 (benefit limit) of the Internal Revenue Code are quite complex and can vary under individual circumstances. The general compensation limit for 2012 is \$250,000. The general benefit limit for 2012 is \$200,000 per year for a member retiring at age 65 although this limit is generally reduced for retirement prior to age 62. These limitations are indexed each year.

Please contact our Actuary, Jim Lamenzo, if you have any questions.