



Jeff Kessler



Richard Thompson



John Unger II



Brent Boggs



Roman Prezioso



Harry Keith White



Dan Foster



Dave Pethel

## KNOW YOUR LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP

Members of the Legislative Leadership are important players in getting our chosen legislation passed. Make every attempt you can to communicate and promote our goals to each of them.

**Acting President Senator Jeff Kessler (D – Marshall, District 2)** was appointed November, 1997 to fill a vacancy. He has

been elected to the Senate since 1998. Senator Kessler received his B.A. from West Liberty State College and a J. D. from West Virginia University College of Law. He and his wife Gretchen, have four children: Jacob, Lauren, Jackson, and Hastings. He was the recipient of the Senate Perfect Roll Call Attendance Award (3) and the Legislator of the

Year Award (4). As Senator he served as Vice-Chair, Committee on Banking and Insurance and Select Committee on Economic Development; and Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary. Before coming to the Senate he served as Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Marshall County; City Solicitor, City of Benwood; Municipal Court Judge,

City of McMechen.

**Mr. Speaker Richard Thompson (D – Wayne, District 17)** was elected to the House in 1980 and again from 2000 to the present. He has been Co-chair of the Committee on Parks and Recreation and is presently Speaker of the House.

Thompson attended Marshall University, B.S. and West Virginia University College of Law J.D. He has served in the army, is a former Assistant Prosecuting Attorney and Chairman of the Workers' Compensation Appeal Board. His mother is a retired teacher.

**Senate Majority Leader John Unger II (D – Berkeley, District 16)** was elected 1998-2010. During his tenure as Sena-

tor, he has chaired Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and was Vice-Chair, Commission on Interstate Cooperation. He was the Founder and Past President of WV International Trade Development Council. He has served in several foreign countries. He worked with Mother Teresa in Calcutta.

**House Majority Leader Brent Boggs (D – Braxton, District 34)** was elected to the House of Delegates in 1996-2010. He has held leadership positions in the House as Vice-Chair, Committee on Agriculture and Finance Committee.

He also served as Chairman on Committee on Roads and Transportation. In addition to these Leader-

ship roles in the Legislature, he has also held Leadership roles in many civic and community organization in Braxton County. He is a graduate of Glenville State College, married and the father of two children.

**Senate Finance Chair Roman Prezioso (D - Marion, District 13)** was first elected to the Legislature as a Delegate (1988-94). Two years later (1996-2008) he was elected to the Senate. He received an AB degree from Fairmont State College and a MS degree from West Virginia University. He also attended Marshall University.

Both he and his wife worked as educators in

**See Leaders, Page 3**

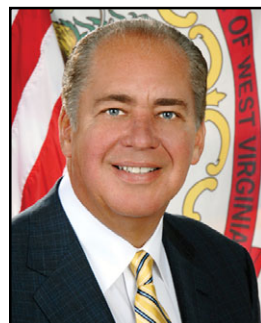
## Meet the Governor

Earl Ray Tomblin is West Virginia's 35th governor. He was born March 15, 1952, in Logan County. He received his undergraduate degree from West Virginia University, an M.B.A. from Marshall University and attended the University of Charleston.

A self-employed businessman and former school teacher, Governor Tomblin was elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates in 1974 at the age of 22 and held that position until he was elected to the West Virginia Senate in 1980. Governor Tomblin is the longest serving Senate President, a position he has held since his election in 1995. He was named the state's first Lieutenant Governor in 2000. He has dedicated his professional career to public service for the betterment of West Virginia.

He started acting as Governor in November 2010, when Governor Manchin resigned the position to fill the unexpired term of U. S. Senator Robert C. Byrd.

Governor Tomblin enjoys a variety of outdoor activities, including riding ATV trails and gardening. He is a committed family man and has been married for 31 years to the former Joanne Jaeger. They have one son, Brent.



EARL RAY TOMBLIN

Complete your Life Insurance Beneficiary Form in January. See PEIA News article on Page 4.

## WVARS LEGISLATIVE GOALS 2010-2011

### MAIN GOALS

- COLA
- Support legislation excluding state pensions from state income taxes
- 3% supplement to all TRS retirees age of 70+
- Quality PEIA coverage

### OTHER LEGISLATIVE OBJECTIVES

- Increase the Homestead Exemption
- Support the coalition to reveal the cost of pharmaceutical marketing and detailing



# HOUSE OF DELEGATES — CAPITOL PHONE NUMBERS, E-MAIL ADDRESSES AND OFFICES

## 1st District - Hancock County and a Portion of Brooke County (2)

Ronnie Jones (D-Hancock)  
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ronnie.jones@wvhouse.gov

Randy Swartzmiller (D - Hancock)  
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## 2nd District – A Portion of Brooke and Ohio Counties (2)

Timothy R. Ennis (D- Brooke)  
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Roy Givens (D – Brooke)  
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## 3rd District - Portion of Ohio County (2)

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Ryan Ferns (D- Ohio)  
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## 4th District – Marshall County and a Portion of Ohio County (2)

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## 5th District – Portion of Monongalia and Wetzel Counties (1)

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## 6th District – Doddridge and Tyler Counties and a Portion of Wetzel (1)

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## 7th District – Pleasants and Ritchie Counties (1)

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## 8th District – Portion of Wood County (1)

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## 9th District – Wirt County and a Portion of Wood County (1)

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## 10th District – A Portion of Wood County (3)

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## 13th District – A Portion of Jackson, Mason, and Putnam Counties (2)

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## 14th District – A Portion of Mason and Putnam Counties (2)

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## 15th District – A Portion of Cabell and Lincoln Counties (3)

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Jim Morgan (D-Cabell)  
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## 16th District – A Portion of Cabell and Wayne Counties (3)

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Delegate Dale Stephens (D- Cabell)  
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## 17th District – A Portion of Wayne County (2)

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## 18th District – A Portion of Boone County (1)

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## 19th District – Logan County and a Portion of Boone, Lincoln, and Putnam Counties (4)

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## 20th District – A Portion of Mingo and Wayne Counties (1)

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## 21st District – A portion of MacDowell and Mingo Counties (1)

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## 22nd District – Wyoming County and a Portion of MacDowell and Mercer Counties (2)

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Linda Goode Phillips (D- Wyoming)  
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## 23rd District – A Portion of MacDowell County (1)

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## 24th District – A Portion of Mercer County (1)

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## 26th District – Monroe County and a Portion of Summers County (1)

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Margaret Anne Staggers (D- Fayette)  
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## 30th District – A Portion of Kanawha County (7)

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## 31st District – A Portion of Kanawha County (1)

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## 32nd District – A Portion of Kanawha County (3)

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## 33rd District – Calhoun County and a Portion of Clay and Gilmer Counties (1)

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## 34th District – Braxton County and a Portion of Gilmer County (1)

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## 35th District – A Portion of Nicholas County (1)

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## 37th District – Pocahontas and Randolph Counties (2)

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## 39th District – A Portion of Upshur County (1)

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## 40th District – Barbour County and a Portion of Upshur County (1)

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## 41st District – Harrison County and a Portion of Marion County (4)

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Tim Miley (D - Harrison)  
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## 42nd District – Taylor County and a Portion of Marion and Monongalia Counties (1)

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## 43rd District – A Portion of Marion and Monongalia Counties (3)

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215C (304) 340-3124  
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Tim Manchin (D - Marion)  
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## 44th District – A Portion of Monongalia County (4)

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Charlene Marshall (D - Monongalia)  
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Amanda Pasdon (R - Monongalia)  
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## 45th District – A Portion of Preston County (1)

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## 46th District – Tucker County and a Portion of Preston County (1)

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## 47th District – Hardy County and a Portion of Pendleton County (1)

Harold Michael (D – Hardy)  
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## 48th District – Grant County and a Portion of Mineral and Pendleton Counties (1)

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## 49th District – A Portion of Mineral County (1)

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## 50th District – A Portion of Hampshire and Mineral Counties (1)

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## 51st District – A Portion of Hampshire and Morgan Counties (1)

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## 52nd District – A Portion of Berkeley and Morgan Counties (1)

Larry Kump (R– Berkeley)  
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## 53rd District – A Portion of Berkeley County (1)

Jonathan Miller (R– Berkeley)  
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## 54th District – A Portion of Berkeley County (1)

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## 55th District – A Portion of Berkeley County (1)

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## 56th District – A Portion of Berkeley and Jefferson Counties (1)

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## 57th District – A Portion of Jefferson County (1)

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## 58th District – A Portion of Jefferson County (1)

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## West Virginia Association of Retired School Employees to contact during Legislature

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## SENATE — CAPITOL PHONE NUMBERS, E-MAIL ADDRESSES AND OFFICES

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### 2nd District – Calhoun, Doddridge, Ritchie, Tyler and Wetzel Counties and portions of Ohio, Marion and Monongalia Counties

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### 3rd District – Pleasants, Wirt and Wood Counties and a Portion of Roane County

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### 4th District - Jackson, Mason and Putnam Counties and a Portion of Roane County

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### 5th District – Cabell County and a Portion of Wayne County

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### 6th District – McDowell and Mingo Counties and Portions of Mercer and Wayne Counties

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### 7th District – Boone, Lincoln and Logan Counties and a Portion of Wayne County

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Earl Ray Tomblin (D – Logan)  
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### 8th and 17th Districts – Kanawha County

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### 9th District – Raleigh County and a Portion of Wyoming County

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### 10th District – Greenbrier, Monroe and Summers Counties and Portions of Fayette and Mercer Counties

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### 12th District – Braxton, Gilmer, Harrison and Lewis Counties

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### 13th District – Portions of Marion and Monongalia Counties

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### 14th District – Barbour, Mineral, Preston, Taylor and Tucker Counties and Portions of Grant and Monongalia Counties

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### 15th District – Hampshire, Hardy, Morgan, Pendleton, Pocahontas, Randolph and Portions of Berkeley, Grant and Upshur Counties

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### 16th District – Berkeley and Jefferson Counties

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## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

### By Bill Hammond

This year's possibilities could be good for Retired School Employees. There are several politicians in Charleston who are interested in running for Governor in 2012 and our votes could make a difference.

Our state is on the threshold of a boom in Natural Gas exploration so money could be available to fund a COLA. These are all unknown factors that represent some of the possibilities we do not want to overlook.

We all need to work hard and stick together as we explore the possibilities to obtain increases for all members.

Let's all support CORPE DAY on February 17, 2011 and let the legislature know "The Red Coats are coming." If the legislators, who represent your county, do not attend the rally make every effort to visit them and make them aware of our goals for 2011.

## LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP

### Leaders

From Page 1

Marion County. Among his many distinguished services are: Southern Regional Education Board, West Virginia Adult Education Association, and American Vocational Association Region One's Legislator of the Year.

He has held the following Legislative Positions: Vice-Chair, Committee on Constitutional Revision, Committee on Education, Committee on Pensions and Retirement, Committee on Computers and Technology; Chair, Committee on Education, Committee on the Military, Student Intern Committee, Committee on Health and Human Resources, Legislative Oversight Commission on Health and Human Resources.

**House Finance Chair Delegate Harry Keith White (D**

**– Mingo, District 21)** was appointed in 1992 to fill a vacancy and then elected in 1992; 1996-2006. He was Chairman of the Committee on Insurance. He attended Marshall University, B.B.A. White is a businessman. He has been a member of the Gilbert Town Council and received two Distinguished Flying Crosses for heroism while serving as a Navy Combat Pilot in Vietnam.

**Senate Pensions Chair Senator Dan Foster (D – Kanawha, District 17)** was elected to the House in 2002 and the Senate in 2004. Foster attended Harvard College B.A. and Stanford University School of Medicine M.D. He did his Surgery Residency at Tulane University Associated Hospitals and has practiced general and vascular surgery in Charleston since 1979. He is now the Physician Administrator at Charleston Area Medical Center.

Foster has been on the boards of the Education Alliance; the University of Charleston; the West Virginia Symphony; Charleston Convention and Visitors Bureau; and Metro 911.

**House Pensions Chair Delegate Dave Pethtel (D – Wetzel, District 5)** A Teacher who received his A.B degree from Glenville State College and a M.A. + 45 hours from West Virginia University. His Affiliations are: Member, W.V.E.A.; N.E.A.; W.C.E.A.

He was first elected in 1988 and served until 1992. He was reelected in 1998 to present.

He has held the following Legislative Positions: Assistant Majority Whip; Chair, Committee on Industry and Labor, and Committee on Interstate Cooperation; Vice Chair, Committee on Insurance, Committee on Constitutional Revision, and Pensions Committee.

## LEADERSHIP

### Senate

Senate President: Earl Ray Tomblin  
Acting President: Jeff Kessler  
President Pro Tempore: Brooks McCabe  
Majority Leader: John Unger II  
Majority Whip: Richard Browning  
Minority Leader: Mike Hall  
Minority Whip: Karen L. Facemyer

### Finance

Roman Prezioso (Chair)  
Douglas Facemire (Vice Chair), Karen Facemyer (Minority Vice Chair), Chafin, Edgell, Green, Helmick, Laird, McCabe, Miller, Plymale, Stollings, Unger, Wells, Yost, Boley, Hall, Sypolt

### Pensions

Dan Foster (Chair)  
Larry Edgell (Vice-Chair)  
Jenkins, McCabe, Plymale, Hall, Nohe

### Rules

Jeff Kessler (Chair)  
Browning, McCabe, Palumbo, Plymale, Prezioso, Synder, Unger, Boley, Hall

### House of Delegates

Speaker of the House: Richard Thompson  
Speaker Pro Tempore: Ron Fragale  
Majority Leader: Brent Boggs  
Majority Whip: Mike Caputo  
Assistant Majority Whips: Larry Barker, Tim Ennis, Richard Iaquina, Clif Moore, Dave Pethtel, Daniel Poling, Margaret Donaldson Smith, Margaret Anne Staggers, Josh Stowers, Randy Swartzmiller  
Minority Leader: Tim Armstead  
Minority Whip: Larry Border  
Assistant Minority Whip: Troy Andes, Ray Canterbury, Daryl Cowles, Lynwood "Woody" Ireland, Carol Miller

### Finance

Harry Keith White (Chair)  
Campbell (Vice Chair)  
William Anderson (Minority Chair)  
Mitch Carmichael (Minority Vice-Chair)  
Doyle, Guthrie, Iaquina, Kominar, Manchin, Marshall, Perdue, L. Phillips, D. Poling, M. Poling, Reynolds, Stowers, Varner, Williams, Ashley, Border, Canterbury, Cowles, Evans, Walters

### Pensions & Retirement

Dave Pethtel (Chair)  
Tim Ennis (Vice-Chair)  
Givens, Guthrie, D. Poling, Canterbury, Duke

### Rules

Speaker Thompson (Chair)  
Boggs, Caputo, Fragale, Hatfield, Marshall, Miley, Morgan, Paxton, M. Poling, Talbot, Varner, White, Anderson, Armstead, Border, Carmichael, Overington, Sumner

# PEIA NEWS

## Living Will

The PEIA Finance Board met December 2, 2010 and approved the Insurance Plan for the fiscal year 2012. Beginning July 1, 2011, medical insurance for retirees increases four dollars a month unless the enrolled members submit an affidavit stating that they have a "Living Will". Your living will must have a witness signature, but it is a stronger document if it has two witnesses and a notary signature. We printed a sample living will in the fall newsletter. There are other versions available. If you need a form or assistance contact Bill Milam at 304-610-0192 or [bmilam@suddenlink.net](mailto:bmilam@suddenlink.net).

## CORPE RALLY DAY

### FEBRUARY 17, 2011

Members should plan to arrive at the Capitol Cafeteria around 8:30 a.m. A light breakfast will be served consisting of eggs, bacon, sausage, biscuits and gravy, coffee and hot tea. We will have two lines for breakfast (one for retirees and the other for Legislators).

Pick up your free ticket when you register at the WVARSE table.

Free parking is available at Laidley Field (Laidley Field side of the Street) with shuttle service every 10 minutes. **Wear your RED.** Any legislator who attends will be invited to speak.

#### TIPS for the CORPE Rally Day

##### Before the Rally

Know your legislators-their names, their titles (senator, delegate, president, speaker, chairman/chairwoman). Recognize their faces. Invite your legislators to attend the Rally. Prepare a sign for your unit ( \_\_\_\_\_ County Retired School Employees). Make a pin or small favor for your legislators. Ask your legislators to recognize your county unit during the legislative session.

##### At the Rally

**Wear RED** and plan to arrive around 8:30 a.m. Hold up your sign to bring your entire unit together. Units that share a legislator may consider sitting together or Regions may want to sit together. Address the legislator by name (Senator Jones) and introduce yourself (again). Present your legislators with the favors. THANK them for attending.

##### After the Rally

Visit the offices of those who did not attend. Attend the sessions. Stand when they recognize your group. If time, visit the offices of those who did attend. Thank the secretary for reminding them. P.S. Mary Gill always brings fudge to her secretaries.

##### All the Time

Continue to talk with your legislators at church, in stores and at community affairs. This is the best way to promote WVARSE.

## PEIA Needs Your Help with Life Beneficiaries

In order to serve you better, PEIA is beginning the process of computerizing beneficiary forms. Once the process is complete, you will be able to go online and view or update your beneficiary information 24/7.

You will receive a letter in January from PEIA/Minnesota Life with the PEIA logo on the envelope explaining the process. Enclosed with the letter will be a new form for beneficiary information. You may either fill out the form and return in the enclosed envelope or go online and complete the form. Complete instructions to register online will be provided in the letter.

A Minnesota Life (your life insurance carrier) representative will be available to speak/answer questions at local meetings. A representative will also be participating in the PEIA Information Fair in selected locations in March and April.

Continue to update your beneficiary information when there is a change of address, divorce, marriage, or death of your beneficiary. Remember that when a beneficiary dies, the benefits do not pass to his/her children.

Please contact Bill Milam (304-610-0192 or [bmilam@suddenlink.net](mailto:bmilam@suddenlink.net)) if you have questions or want to schedule a speaker.

PEIA is encouraging all retirees to go online and designate their Life Insurance beneficiary. Designating a beneficiary on-line with PEIA will allow you access to view, change or update your beneficiary information 24hrs a day 7 days a week. **Please note beneficiary information is not released over the phone.** To designate your beneficiary on line please follow the instructions provided in the letter. Please read further to better understand the importance of having current beneficiary information.

#### *Have you elected a beneficiary for your life insurance?*

As a life insurance holder, it is your right to choose who receives your policy benefits at death. By naming a beneficiary, you are able to ensure that your life insurance benefit is being passed on to those you want to help the most. Events such as marriage, birth/adoption of children, divorce, or death may dramatically change the intent of how you would want your life insurance benefit paid.

#### *Why are beneficiaries important?*

Naming a beneficiary is an important benefit of life insurance ownership. It determines who receives the proceeds of your death benefit. Take the time today to make sure your beneficiary designations are up to date!

#### *Choosing a beneficiary?*

Some common beneficiary choices are:

Primary beneficiary. The person or persons named will receive the benefit.

Contingent beneficiary. If the primary beneficiary is no longer living, the benefit is paid to this person.

Default beneficiary. If you do not name a beneficiary, policy benefits will be paid in the following order: your spouse, if living, otherwise; your natural or legally adopted children, if living, otherwise; your parents, if living, otherwise; your siblings, if living, otherwise; your estate.

#### *How do I elect or make changes to my beneficiary designations?*

To make elections or update your beneficiary, go online to PEIA's Benefits Administration site. You can access this site by going to [www.peia.wv.gov](http://www.peia.wv.gov) and clicking on the Manage My Benefits button in the upper right hand corner. Then login with your email and password. Complete instructions to register online will be provided in the letter you will receive.

Newsletter deadline: March 15, 2011

To serve, not to be served

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Each one, Reach one — **THINK MEMBERSHIP**

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