Federal Legislation and National Pension Trends

Presenter Bio	**Jeannine Maroke Raymond, Director of Federal Relations, National Association of State Retirement Administrators**

Ms. Raymond has served as director of federal relations for the National Association of State Retirement Administrators for more than 16 years. In this role, she advocates the interests of NASRA members before Congress, the Administration and its many federal agencies, and is a liaison to other professional associations, interest groups and policy organizations.

She coordinates numerous policy and federal education efforts between NASRA and other national associations regarding state and local retirement issues. She also frequently speaks and writes on federal legislative and regulatory matters and is a contributor to association publications on state retirement system policies and administration.

Ms. Raymond serves on the advisory board of the Wharton Business School's Pension Research Council, the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans' Government Liaison Committee, and the board of directors for the Coalition to Preserve Retirement Security. She was a congressionally-appointed delegate to the 2002 National Summit on Retirement Savings.

Formerly, Ms. Raymond was the legislative analyst for the Government Finance Officers Association. She also worked as a graduate student associate for the California Debt Advisory Commission within the California State Treasurer's Office.

She received a Bachelor's degree in economics from the University of California, San Diego, and a Master's degree, with honors, in public administration and intergovernmental management from the University of Southern California.

Presenter Bio	**Keith Brainard, Research Director, National Association of State Retirement Administrators**

As research director for the National Association of State Retirement Administrators, Mr. Brainard collects, prepares and distributes to NASRA members news, studies and reports pertinent to public retirement system administration and policy.

Mr. Brainard is co-author of The Governmental Plans Answer Book, Third Edition, and he created the Public Fund Survey, predecessor to the Public Plans Database, an online compendium of public pension data enveloped and maintained through a collaboration of the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College, the Center for State and Local Government Excellence, and NASRA. He also created the State & Local Pension Exchange, predecessor to the Public Fund Survey and recipient of the Award for Excellence in Government Finance from the Government Finance Officers Association. He has discussed public pension issues before Congress, state legislative committees, public pension boards of trustees, and on multiple media outlets.

Keith is an appointed member of the Texas Pension Review Board and served two non-consecutive terms as an elected member of the Georgetown, Texas, city council. Mr. Brainard previously served as manager of budget and planning for the Arizona State Retirement System and as a fiscal analyst for the Texas and Arizona legislatures. He holds a B.A. and an M.P.A. from the University of Texas at Austin.