



Pension Fund Notes

Newsletter of the American Federation of Musicians and
Employers' Pension Fund

AFM-EPF Webinar Provides Update on Congressional Engagement



AFM-EPF Union Trustee Co-Chair Ray Hair, AFM Legislative-Political Director Alfonso Pollard and Nashville Local 257 President Dave Pomeroy meet with Gideon Bragin, Senior Tax and Pensions Policy Advisor to Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH), on September 21

Union Trustee Co-Chair Ray Hair and Employer Trustee Co-Chair Chris Brockmeyer [hosted a webinar on Tuesday, October 9](#) to answer questions from participants and provide an update on the Congressional Joint Select Committee on the Solvency of Multiemployer Pension Plans.

During the webinar, Hair and Brockmeyer discussed meetings they held in September with Joint Select Committee members and their staff. [Earlier last month, we shared with participants](#) that proposed changes to the Butch

Lewis Act would prevent the AFM-EPF and many other multiemployer pension funds from accessing the bill's loan program. In their meetings with AFM-EPF Trustees, members of the Joint Select Committee universally stated that no legislative approach has been finalized, and there is still time for more ideas about fully and fairly addressing the crisis—and for more negotiation to attempt to reach a consensus. However, it is still far from certain whether any proposed solution will garner sufficient bipartisan support in the Committee, let alone both houses of Congress.

You can [listen to the webinar on the Fund website](#) to learn about the status of the Joint Select Committee and how you can help press Congress for a solution that protects the AFM-EPF and your retirement security.

Throughout the spring and summer, the Trustees have consistently advocated for a solution that fully addresses the financial issues facing our Fund, while treating participants fairly. That meant supporting the original version of the Butch Lewis Act when it would have helped our Fund, while opposing proposals that don't make a solution available to our Fund. This week's webinar follows months of active engagement by the Trustees and Fund participants with the Joint Select Committee since it was formed in February.

- In April, [the Trustees encouraged participants to respond](#) to the Joint Select Committee's call for public comments.
- In May, Trustees [Hair](#) and [Brockmeyer](#) conducted their first set of meetings with Joint Select Committee members and staff.
- In June, [the Fund launched a set of tools](#) to help participants connect with their Members of Congress and the Joint Select Committee.
- AFM and employer lobbyists have continued to work with Committee staff throughout the summer, while we provided [updates to participants on Joint Select Committee hearings](#).

There are just 49 days until the Joint Select Committee's November 30 deadline. [Please make your voice heard](#) at this critical juncture.

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