



news release

for immediate release

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PA SERS Board Hires Illinois State Universities Retirement System Official as Chief Investment Officer

HARRISBURG – The Board of the Pennsylvania State Employees' Retirement System today announced that it has hired Bryan Lewis as the system's chief investment officer. Lewis has been tapped to run the system's \$25 billion fund, serving more than 236,000 members.

"Bryan's strong public pension experience and investment background stood out to the board," explained SERS Board Chairman David R. Fillman. "Like so many systems across the nation, SERS has been facing funding challenges while working to strike a balance between generating returns through all sorts of markets and being responsive to taxpayers' desire for transparency. Bryan has expressed a clear understanding of these pressures and an enthusiasm to lead the fund through them."

Mr. Lewis currently serves as executive director of the \$20 billion State Universities Retirement System, Champaign Illinois. In that position, Mr. Lewis leads fund administration and investment management, including managing risk and compliance for two defined benefit plans and one defined contribution plan serving 220,000 members.

"I am looking forward to working with the SERS staff and the board to prudently manage the assets of the fund," Lewis said. "I am appreciative of the opportunity to help the commonwealth's current and former employees meet their financial goals."

Lewis will assume duties from SERS CIO Thomas F. Brier, who announced his plans to retire on June 24, 2016, after nearly 24 years of commonwealth service. Sixteen of those years were with SERS.

The board's personnel committee, led by Senator Charles McIlhinney, interviewed candidates from the system's CIO search conducted in 2014 by Korn Ferry, as well as internal personnel.

The full board voted to hire Mr. Lewis in a special meeting yesterday. Mr. Lewis' appointment is subject to successful salary and start date negotiations, and any necessary commonwealth approvals.

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Pennsylvania State Employees' Retirement System

Established in 1923, SERS is one of the nation's oldest and largest retirement plans for public employees, with more than 236,000 members and assets of nearly \$25 billion. A wealth of information is available at www.SERS.pa.gov.

for more information

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