

NBER Retirement Research Center

Implications of the Changes and Challenges Facing State Retirement Systems

April 17, 2018

Mathematica Policy Research
1100 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002

Robert Clark, Organizer

PROGRAM

9:00 INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Robert Clark

North Carolina State University and NBER

Mark J. Warshawsky

Deputy Commissioner for Retirement and Disability Policy
Social Security Administration

Overview of the workshop and summary of key issues

- the sustainability of state and local retirement plans
- how changes in these plans affect work and retirement decisions of public employees
- the impact of plan changes on federal programs.

9:15 SESSION 1 Analysis of the Financial Status of State and Local Retirement Plans and an Overview of the Public Labor Force Covered by These Plans

Moderator: *Kathleen McGarry*

University of California, Los Angeles and NBER

Part 1: Financial Status of State/Local Retirement Plans

Presenter: *Andrew Biggs* ([Slides](#))

American Enterprise Institute

Overview of the size of the financial problems facing state and local retirement plans; states and cities most at risk of default; and plans covering workers who are not currently included in the Social Security system.

Part 2: Overview of the Public Labor Force Covered by These Plans

Presenters: *Katharine Abraham* ([Slides](#))

University of Maryland; former Commissioner, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Michael Hurd ([Slides](#))

RAND Corporation and NBER

The public sector labor force and how the trend toward less generous retirement plans will affect the wellbeing of future retirees.

10:45 BREAK

11:00 SESSION 2 Is Retirement Security for Public Employees Threatened by Trends in Retirement Plans?

Moderator: *Annamaria Lusardi*
George Washington University and NBER

Recent trends in public pensions.

Presenters: *Robert Clark* ([Slides](#))
North Carolina State University and NBER

Jeffrey Brown ([Slides](#))
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign and NBER

Brigitte Madrian ([Slides](#))
Harvard University and NBER

Laura Quinby ([Slides](#))
Center for Retirement Research at Boston College

12:45 LUNCH PRESENTATION *Measuring Pension Funding*

Presenter: *Peter Diamond* ([Slides](#))
Massachusetts Institute of Technology and NBER

2:00 SESSION 3 How Will Changes in State Retirement Plans Affect Social Security and Medicare?

Moderator: *Stephen Zeldes*
Columbia University and NBER

Changes in public retirement plans and implications for Social Security and Medicare.

Presenters: *Melinda Morrill* ([Slides](#))
North Carolina State University

Gopi Shah Goda ([Slides](#))
Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research and NBER

Louise Sheiner ([Slides](#))
The Brookings Institution

3:30 CONCLUDING REMARKS

Moderator: *James Poterba*
Massachusetts Institute of Technology and NBER

3:45 ADJOURN