

# The HR Connection

We work better, when we work together....

## September 2015

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#### **MPERS Turns 60**

In 1955, Senate Bill 66, was passed, and MPERS was established. This was the result of work done by some industrious employees of the State Highways Commission, the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Highway Employees' Association, who negotiated an arrangement with the State Highways Commission to forego a future employee raise in order to fund the first contributions of the retirement system. Now, 60 years later, we are a \$2 billion agency, that serves over 18,000 members. We've come a long way, and a lot has changed throughout the years. We at MPERS are proud to serve those who keep us safe! For our staff, this isn't just a motto. It's something we truly believe in and we are proud to serve our members who are out there every day working to protect & serve the citizens of Missouri, and the many others simply traveling through our state. Thanks to all of you, who have helped make MPERS the success we are today! Here's to many more years of helping to provide a secure future for our MoDOT & Patrol families!

## **Workplace Possibilities**

As most of you are aware, Workplace Possibilities is a program offered to help keep employees faced with a challenging medical condition at work, and off of disability. What you may not be aware of is how underutilized this program has been! To date, there have been <u>NO</u> MoDOT or Patrol employees that have received the benefit of the program through specialized equipment, or workstation modification. Not one....

We need your help to determine why this program is not being utilized. Is it a lack of awareness or communication with the members about the availability? Are there concerns that you, as the employer have about implementing this program? Are there other concerns that need to be addressed? Our goal at MPERS is to provide the best service possible to our members, at the best cost possible for our employers.

The link below takes you to an article that can be found via the "Workplace Possibilities" website. This article gives a few brief "do's & don'ts" of a successful stay-at work program. We ask that you please take some time to think about Workplace Possibilities, and how we can improve this program, to make it more effective for both you, as the employer, and for our members.

"The do's & don'ts of a successful stay-at-work accommodation"

### **Pre-Retirement Seminars for September**

September 25, 2015 – Jefferson City (This will be the last pre-retirement seminar for 2015)