

# **Retirement System Investment Commission**

**Discussion with Senate Finance Committee December 2013** 

# Hewitt ennisknupp

#### Background on Hewitt EnnisKnupp

- Approximately 290 U.S. investment consulting professionals; more than 600 worldwide
- \$2 trillion in assets under advisement in the U.S.; more than \$4.6 trillion in global assets
- 477 U.S. investment consulting clients covering:
  - Public and Corporate Public Pension Plans
  - Defined Contribution Retirement Plans
  - Endowments and Foundations
  - Taft-Hartley Plans
- Work with 40 public pension funds, representing \$1.2 trillion in assets
- Independent and objective advice—100% of revenue derived from consulting clients
- Investment Manager and Capital Market Research structured as global practices
- More than 75 professionals dedicated to Investment Manager Research, including more than 35 dedicated to alternative strategies

#### Experience

#### **Depth of Resources**

## Plans

#### Number of DB Plans

**#1 Industry Rankings** 

Total U.S. Client

Number of 401(k)

Assets

- Number of Corporate Clients
- Number of Plans
   \$200 million

Sources: November 2012 issue of *Pensions* & *Investments* and Plan Sponsor 2012 survey

**Analytical Capabilities** 

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### General Responsibilities of HEK with RSIC

- Works FOR the Commission and WITH Staff
- Major functions:
  - Asset allocation, investment structure and asset/liability studies
  - Investment manager monitoring and evaluation
  - Performance reporting
  - Investment education, including thought leadership and best practices
  - Support on miscellaneous investment functions
- Hewitt EnnisKnupp team led by:

Suzanne Bernard, CFA, CAIA – 25 years experience in investment consulting; all with Hewitt EnnisKnupp Brady O'Connell, CFA, CAIA – 16 years experience in investment consulting; all with Hewitt EnnisKnupp

- Supported by a team of over 20 professionals specializing in:
  - Risk management
     Fiduciary practices

  - Asset allocation
     Operational due diligence
  - Reporting Manager research

Our role is to work collaboratively with the Commission and Staff to meet RSIC's investment goals.

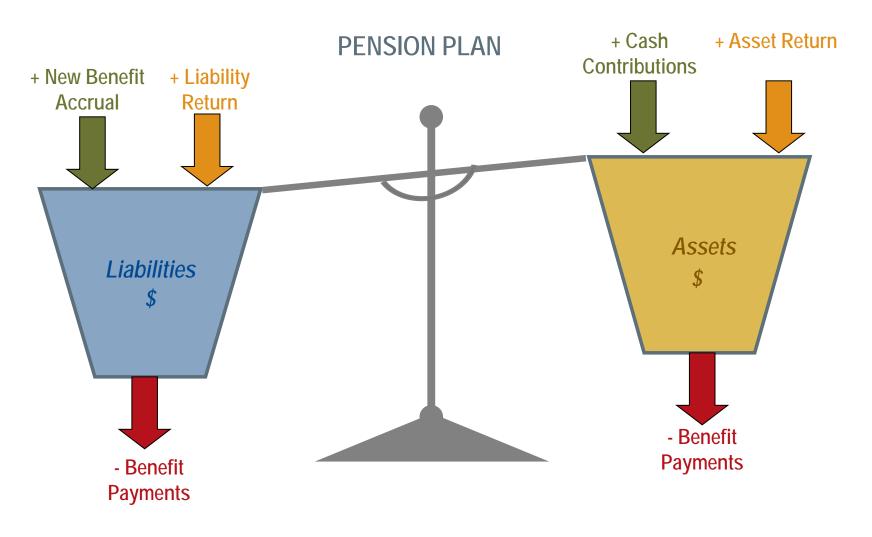


### **HEK Work With RSIC**

- Formally began our relationship in October 2012
- Major work to-date:
  - Asset/Liability study and asset allocation recommendations
  - Review of all investment managers and strategic partnerships
  - Review and suggested revisions of investment policies
  - Introduction of a comprehensive quarterly private markets performance report to the Commission/Staff in conjunction with ongoing reporting
  - Review of investment manager fees paid by the fund
- Ongoing work:
  - Continued implementation of new asset allocation targets
  - Annual asset allocation review
  - Recommendations on managers/investment areas of interest
  - Manager selection assistance
  - Operational due diligence support
  - Independent reporting of success of investment program



#### Pension – Balance of Liabilities and Assets



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### Goals of an Asset/Liability Study

- Major factors affecting the asset allocation recommendations in an asset/liability study are:
  - *Time horizon to fund the liability*: long vs. short?
  - Characteristics of the liability: growing vs. frozen?
  - Unfunded liability status: underfunded vs. well-funded?
  - Nature of cash flows: high vs. moderate need for liquidity?
  - Ability to Effectively Invest in Alternatives: desire for additional diversification/alpha vs. desire for simplicity?
- Changes we recommended in our February asset allocation included:
  - 1. Modified target asset allocation
  - 2. Narrowed rebalancing ranges around target asset allocation
  - 3. Changes to some of the asset class benchmarks
- These enhancements offer the following benefits:
  - Better risk/return trade off: higher expected return with a modest increase in expected risk
  - Enhanced risk control (through tighter rebalancing ranges)
- Several other asset allocation combinations were considered the recommended allocation was deemed the best fit by the Commission.



# 2013 Retirement System Investment Commission Asset / Liability Study Alternative Portfolio Return and Risk Expectations

Asset Class	Current Target Policy	Alternative 1: Proposed Solution	Alternative 2: Same Risk Higher Return	Alternative 3: Capped Private Market Investments <sup>6</sup>	Alternative 4: No Alternative Investments
Global Equity <sup>1</sup>	38%	40%	32%	42%	60%
Real Assets <sup>2</sup>	6%	8%	9%	6%	0%
Opportunistic <sup>3</sup>	15%	18%	27%	15%	0%
Diversified Credit <sup>4</sup>	21%	19%	23%	22%	0%
Fixed Income <sup>5</sup>	20%	15%	9%	15%	40%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
10 Year Expected Return	7.00%	7.14%	7.57%	7.06%	6.15%
10 Year Expected Risk	12.52%	11.54%	12.52%	12.81%	12.98%
10 Year Sharpe Ratio	0.456	0.506	0.501	0.450	0.374
10 Year Expected Inflation	2.30%	2.30%	2.30%	2.30%	2.30%
30 Year Expected Return <sup>6</sup>	7.55%	7.68%	8.04%	7.53%	6.79%
30 Year Expected Risk	11.93%	11.04%	11.97%	12.17%	12.19%
30 Year Sharpe Ratio	0.415	0.460	0.454	0.405	0.344
30 Year Expected Inflation	2.30%	2.30%	2.30%	2.30%	2.30%

<sup>1</sup> Global Equity is comprised of Global Public Equity and Private Equity

<sup>2</sup> Real Assets is comprised of Real Estate and Commodities

<sup>3</sup> Opportunistic is comprised of Hedge Funds and Global Asset Allocation (GAA)

<sup>4</sup> Diversified Credit is comprised of High Yield Bonds, Bank Loans, Emerging Market Debt, and Private Debt/Opportunistic Credit

<sup>5</sup> Fixed Income is comprised of Core Fixed Income, International Bonds, Intermediate Credit, Short Credit, Short Gov't Bonds, and Cash

<sup>6</sup> Private Market Investments (Private Equity, Private Debt, and Real Estate) and Hedge Funds are capped at 20% of the total asset allocation.



## 2013 Retirement System Investment Commission Asset / Liability Study Summary of Recommended Rebalancing Ranges

Asset Class	Current Minimum	Current Maximum	Proposed Minimum	Proposed Maximum
Global Equity:			30%	45%
• U.S. Stock (lg. + small-cap)	0%	25/20%		
<ul> <li>Non-U.S. Stock – Developed</li> </ul>	0%	25%		
<ul> <li>Emerging Markets Equities</li> </ul>	0%	20%	25%	37%
Private Equity	0%	15%	6%	12%
Real Assets:	0%	20%		
Commodities	0	10%	0%	6%
Real Estate	0	10%	2%	8%
Opportunistic:	0%	20%		
GTAA/Risk Parity	0	20%	7%	13%
<ul> <li>Hedge Funds (low beta)</li> </ul>	0	20%	5%	11%
Diversified Credit:				
Mixed Credit (HY, Loans, Structured)	0	25%	3%	9%
<ul> <li>Emerging Market Debt</li> </ul>	0	25%	3%	9%
Private Debt	0	15%	4%	10%
Conservative Fixed Income:			10%	25%
<ul> <li>Core Fixed Income (+IG Credit)</li> </ul>	0	50%	4%	10%
<ul> <li>Global Fixed Income (hedged)</li> </ul>	0	25%	0%	6%
<ul> <li>Short Duration</li> </ul>	0	100%	0%	6%
<ul> <li>Cash (net of overlays)</li> </ul>	0	100%	0%	5%

 We recommend more narrow ranges across all asset class. In practice, the portfolio has not generally tested the minimums or maximums.

### **Closing Remarks**

- Program's investments are well-positioned to meet obligations over time
- Knowledgeable Commission members
- High caliber Staff
- Constructive and collaborative relationship between Staff and HEK
- Good dialogue between Commission members and HEK
- All of our recommendations have been addressed to date

