

# IEA-RETIRED vs. IRTA

Many retiring IEA members are approached by IRTA (Illinois Retired Teachers Association) and asked to join IRTA. Here are some of the differences between the two separate organizations you should know before making a decision on membership. If it doesn't begin with IEA, it isn't us!



Coverage of \$1 million for civil coverage and \$35,000.00 for criminal coverage by NEA's professional liability insurance if a retired member takes temporary work in a public school system.

No liability insurance.

Access to NEA Member Benefits programs which include dental and vision insurance.

Access to dental and vision insurance and other programs through Association Member Benefits Advisors.

IEA employs multiple staff members statewide to advocate for retirees.

IRTA has a handful of staff located in one section of the state.

Affiliate of National Education Association-Retired.

Has no comparable relationship with any national group.

Embraces the democratic decision-making processes that characterize IEA and NEA.

The top of the organization exerts significant control.

All retired public education employees -teachers, education support professionals, and higher education - are eligible for membership.

Only retired teachers are eligible for membership.

Founded by former active IEA members.

Founded by retired teachers and school administrators.

IEA-Retired is a member of the We Are One labor coalition.

IRTA is not a labor union.

IEA attorneys successfully argued the 2015 Heaton v. Quinn lawsuit before the Illinois Supreme Court to protect our Illinois Constitutional pension benefits.

IRTA promotes that they alone won this lawsuit because they filed the initial lawsuit, albeit in the wrong court.