



To: *Members of the Probation Officers and 911 Telecommunicators Pension Plans Work Group*

From: *Aleena Wilson, Analyst*

Date: *June 25, 2025*

## **Probation Officers and 911 Telecommunicators Pension Plans Work Group (Work Group) Mandate**

The 2025 Omnibus Pension and Retirement bill, enacted as Chapter 37 of the 2025 session laws, requires that the Work Group make certain determinations and consider various topics. See Ch. 37, Art. 17, Sec. 1, Subd. 3. This memo provides an outline of what the Work Group must determine and consider in arriving at the Work Group's recommendations.

### **Work Group Determinations**

The Work Group must determine the features of each pension plan, including but not limited to:

- employee and employer contribution rates;
- vesting requirements;
- the benefit formula;
- normal and early retirement ages;
- disability benefits;
- postretirement adjustments;
- the extent to which past service will be credited and paid for; and
- definitions for "probation officer" and "911 telecommunicator".

The Work Group must determine whether the new plans will be entirely new pension plans or whether the new plans will be component pension plans similar to the special coverage for state fire marshals under Minnesota Statutes, section 352.87.

### **Work Group Considerations**

The Work Group must consider:

- the study prepared by PERA that estimates the costs and benefits for a pension plan for probation officers, 911 telecommunicators, and any other public safety adjacent employees;
- the financial impact resulting from the potential cessation of benefit accruals and contributions for members that transfer from the MSRS general state employees retirement plan or the PERA general employees retirement plan to the new pension plan;

- the option for members to purchase credit for past service, including the method for purchasing credit for past service;
- how contributions used to prefund benefit improvements can be made before any new pension plan is created;
- any other public safety adjacent positions that should be included in the new pension plans and how those positions should be defined;
- the balance of employee and employer contributions, including the interest in funding pension benefit improvements with increased employee contributions; and
- a bill styled as 2025 H.F. No. 1779/S.F. No. 1986, also referred to as revisor number 25-02845, or its equivalent, passed/introduced in the 2025 regular or special session, including the testimony on the bill at the meetings of the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement.