

## LCPR Survey of 911 Telecommunicators Employed by the State

**To:** 911 Telecommunicators Employed by the State  
**From:** Susan Lenczewski, Executive Director, Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement ([susan.lenczewski@lcpr.leg.mn](mailto:susan.lenczewski@lcpr.leg.mn), 612.750.0837)  
**Date:** September 3, 2021

A 2021 law requires the establishment of a working group to study whether 911 telecommunicators should receive enhanced pension benefits. Currently most 911 telecommunicators in Minnesota are covered by the PERA General Plan (county and municipal employees) or the MSRS General Plan (state employees).

The law requires the working group to “recommend whether changes to the pension plan coverage for 911 telecommunicators are appropriate. If the working group finds that such changes are appropriate, the working group must recommend changes to the pension plan coverage for 911 telecommunicators. The recommended changes may include but are not limited to moving 911 telecommunicators to the correctional plans.”

The working group is considering a variety of enhancements, including changing the age at which 911 telecommunicators can retire with a full pension to an earlier retirement age, such as at age 55. The working group is also considering whether 911 telecommunicators should be transferred from the General Plans to the Correctional Plans.

The working group has just begun to meet and is in the information-gathering stage. For more information on the group, please see the LCPR website at [www.lcpr.leg.mn/911WorkGroup.htm](http://www.lcpr.leg.mn/911WorkGroup.htm).

The staff of the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement (LCPR), which is the legislative commission that oversees the state’s public pension plans, is assisting the working group. The staff has prepared this brief two-question survey to give 911 telecommunicators an opportunity to provide input into this process, since the recommendations of the working group may eventually result in changes to pension benefits for telecommunicators. However, the Commission will ultimately decide whether to follow the recommendations of the working group or not. Even with Commission approval, any changes to pension benefits will require legislation to be passed by both the House and Senate and signed by the Governor before the changes can take effect.

Your answers to this survey will be provided to LCPR staff (Susan Lenczewski, Chad Burkitt, Analyst, and Lisa Diesslin, Commission Assistant). Your response and the results of the survey will not be used for any purpose other than to inform the working group. We do not want you to identify yourself, except to provide your age, position, and years of service.

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey. **Please respond as soon as possible, and no later than Thursday, September 9, 2021.** If you provide your answers on a paper copy of this survey, submit it to your respective manager by September 9. If you provide your answers via email, please send the email to [susan.lenczewski@lcpr.leg.mn](mailto:susan.lenczewski@lcpr.leg.mn).

## Survey

Please provide this information about yourself:

Your age: \_\_\_\_\_

Your position: \_\_\_\_\_

How many years of service: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Rank in order of importance to you, 1 = most important; 10 = not at all important:
  - \_\_\_ Option to retire with a full pension at age 55
  - \_\_\_ Legislative involvement to seek more pay
  - \_\_\_ Legislative involvement to seek more mental health and other medical benefits
  - \_\_\_ Legislative involvement to seek approval for more staff to share workload
  - \_\_\_ Bigger pension in terms of monthly payments after retirement
  - \_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Compare the features of the MSRS General Plan to the MSRS Correctional Plan and indicate which **plan** you prefer and indicate why on the last bullet.

\_\_\_ General Plan:

- Pension: **1.7%** X years of service X high five salary
- **100% vested at 5 years** of service
- Employee contribution rate: **6%** of salary
- Normal retirement age (full pension age): **65** (or **66** if hired after 1989)
- Annual cost of living increase for retirees: **1%**
- Why I prefer the General Plan:  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Correctional Plan:

- Pension: **2.2%** X years of service X high five salary
- 50% vested at 5 years of service, increasing by 10% each year, until **100% vested at 10** years of service
- Employee contribution rate: **9.6%** of salary
- Normal retirement age (full pension age): **55**
- Annual cost of living increase for retirees: **1.5%**
- Why I prefer the Correctional Plan:  
\_\_\_\_\_