

MINNESOTA POLICE AND PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

525 Park Street, Suite 250 St. Paul, MN 55103-2145 Phone: 651-291-1119 Website: www.mppoa.com

Date: May 4, 2021

To: Senator Julie Rosen, Chair, Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement and members

Re: MPPOA support of Senate File 2485 (Bigham, Rosen, Pappas); Establishes a working group to

consider changes to the pension benefits for 911 telecommunicators.

Dear Chair Rosen and commission members:

The Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association (MPPOA) represents Minnesota's 10,000+ public safety officials who hold active law enforcement licenses in the state of Minnesota. Members include police officers, correctional officers, dispatchers, and firefighters. MPPOA is the largest association representing public safety professionals in the State of Minnesota.

MPPOA supports <u>Senate File 2485 (Bigham, Rosen, Pappas)</u>: Establishes a working group to consider changes to the pension benefits for 911 telecommunicators.

This bill would convene a working group for the purpose of studying 911 telecommunicator pension benefits. Right now, 911 dispatchers are considered clerical staff. MPPOA believes dispatchers are the first line of defense in public safety and should be included in the PERA retirement plan. This bill is the first step.

Sincerely,

Brian Peters
Executive Director

Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association