Hello,

My name is Todd Tokar. I am a Captain on the Newport Fire Department and have been a member of the relief association for about 20 years.

We have been struggling to get members to be on the relief association. As training demands for the fire department continue to increase along with our call volume and personal life's being busy for younger members very few people seem to have the extra time to commit to another job.

Going to the state plan can make managing the retirement easier however due to the lack of choices when switching to the state plan, it gives many people concern about moving. This bill helps in opening up choices for the relief when switching and alleviating some of that. It is critical to our department to do whatever we can to keep the senior members while still trying to attract new ones and this will aid in that.

Todd Tokar

[re: SF 3402/HF 3777]