

**From:** [Michael Carr](#)  
**To:** [Lisa Diesslin](#)  
**Subject:** EDUCATION PENSION REFORM - TESTIMONY  
**Date:** Friday, March 3, 2023 12:52:40 PM

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My testimony:

Dear Ms. Diesslin,

My name is Mike Carr and I am a social studies teacher at Prior Lake High School in Savage, MN. Please support HF2222 (Wolgamott); SF1938 (Frentz) to improve the currently abysmal pension that educators in the state of Minnesota are facing and address the looming crisis in education.

If the pandemic taught us anything at all, it is the absolutely \*crucial\* role that schools play in a functional economy and society. We need to bolster our schools and our teachers immediately.

As an educator, for twenty years, I have been watching teachers leave the profession. Currently, there is very little enticement to join our ranks, and very little enticement to stay. Teaching is hard. Safety concerns, low pay, little respect, increasing workloads, and now pensions that require teachers to work a decade longer than those who retired last year, is prompting far too many to hang it up and find work in the private sector.

I'm seeing younger teachers leaving the profession, and I'm seeing an alarming shortage of new recruits. I've seen shifts in potential teacher candidates over the years, but never like this. Please do your part and vote for the above bills in order to recruit and retain quality educators here in the great state of Minnesota!

Sincerely,

Mike Carr

Prior Lake

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