From: Maren Meade
To: Lisa Diesslin

Subject: EDUCATION PENSION REFORM - TESTIMONY

Date: Friday, March 3, 2023 2:10:17 PM

Greetings ~

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.

Schools play a crucial role in a functional economy and society. We must bolster our schools and our teachers immediately.

Teachers are leaving the profession at an alarming rate. Currently, there is very little enticement to join our ranks, and very little enticement to stay. This job is hard. We love our kids, but the politicization of schools has created an environment that puts educators on the defensive at every juncture. This, in combination with very real 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. We are at a precipice here. 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!

Thank you,

Maren Meade-Anderson

Lakeville, MN