

**From:** [Jason Savage](#)  
**To:** [Lisa Diesslin](#)  
**Subject:** Written Testimony  
**Date:** Friday, March 3, 2023 8:02:52 AM

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**LCPR Members,**

**My name is Jason Savage, and I'm a tier II educator. I'm testifying in favor of the *60/30 proposal from TRA*. I'm in favor of any improvements to the full benefit retirement age and believe it will positively affect Minnesota's ability to recruit and retain quality instructors.**

**Tier II educators have given more contributions than any group in TRA history but will receive a fraction of the prior groups' benefits. They will work up to a decade longer than their Tier I counterparts to get full benefits at age 66. This ranks Tier II educators near the bottom of the nation in retirement age. You recently added some of the harshest early retirement penalties in the nation for this group.**

**The ridiculous full-benefit retirement age of 66 combined with the HARSH penalties create a situation that makes Tier II educators feel "TRAPPED". When people feel TRAPPED, they will either fight or try to escape. Right now, you are seeing the fight. If nothing is done this year, there will be a mass exodus of teachers into a hungry job market over the next few years.**

**LCPR members, YOU will send a message to ALL of MN's Tier II educators thru your actions and votes this session. I ask you to remove the TRAP, lower the Tier II full Benefit age and soften the Penalties to previous Tier I TRA levels. TRAs 60/30 proposal would be a great Starting point.**

**Please, Think out of the box by establishing a trust fund for public pensions using new sin taxes on THC, sports betting, and recreational marijuana sales that would go to the public employees that will deal with the fallout of these changes, and it would be fitting if it helped lower unfunded liabilities for public pensions. I also gave you a survey showing educators are willing to increase their contributions for improvements.**

**Jason Savage**  
High School Principal  
Pillager Schools ISD #116  
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***Pillager, you can go **Anywhere** from here!***

"Being positive doesn't mean you ignore reality. It means you maintain optimism and belief to create a better reality" Jon Gordon

**GO HUSKIES!!!**