From:	<u>CINDY PALM</u>
То:	LCPR Shared Mailbox
Subject:	Tier II Teacher Pension Reform
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Please make teacher pension a priority and work to increase the budget allocated for pensions, specifically Tier II teacher pension reform. This tiered system was created 34 years ago in 1989 and has long since been forgotten, leaving Tier II teachers with stiff penalties for retiring before age 66, while our jobs got increasingly more complex and stressful-even dangerous.

I understand the \$600M allocated to the LCPR by Governor Walz was not sufficient, but other pleas and recommendations can be made from this committee. Putting a 1.9% increase on the backs of current Tier II teachers is like twisting the knife. Funding from the state to districts for pension can become a priority and a way to pay for HF3100 and SF3162. Other education funding can be a source for this reform.

Please bring Tier II teacher pension up to the national average. Minnesota will not recruit or retain teachers if the pension system is not corrected soon to make Minnesota competitive with neighboring states.

NOW is the time to right the wrongs of teacher pensions reform!

Thank you. Cindy Palm 2266 Terrace Drive Mounds View, MN 55112 612-418-3080