

From: [Bob Laine](#)
To: [Lisa Diesslin](#)
Subject: Final Action on the 2023 Omnibus Bill
Date: Thursday, March 30, 2023 1:18:24 PM

LCPR Committee

I am writing in support of HF 3100 and the changes it brings to teacher pension reform in the state of Minnesota. Too long have non-Rule of 90 teachers in the state of Minnesota been treated like second class citizens when it comes to their pension.

Since 1989 when the legislature decided to separate Minnesota into 2 groups, a group of teachers that had not even got into teaching has been burdened by excessive penalties, longer working lives, and lower payouts than their Rule of 90 colleagues. To worsen the situation, past state legislatures gave retired teachers huge COLAs and then reduced the contributions going into the TRA fund until the point the fund went from over 100 percent funded to barely 70% funded. TEACHERS HAD NO SAY IN THESE DECISIONS.

It is time for the state to start paying for their STATE MANDATED pension obligations. Minnesota currently ranks 46th in funding their pensions. SF3100 spreads the cost of the improvements between the teacher and the state. We already rank near the top when it comes to employee contributions but we are willing to make the sacrifice but it is time for the state to begin to pay their fair share! I am in support of the original bill as it was presented by Jay Stoffel of the TRA Board.

Sincerely

Robert Laine
Lake of the Woods School
29 year veteran teacher.