

**From:** [LAYNE HELENE DANIELSON](#)  
**To:** [Lisa Diesslin](#)  
**Subject:** Educators Pension Reform  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 2, 2023 3:26:46 PM

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May 2, 2023

Honorable Chair Representative Her and Pension Committee Members,

Please add an "OR 34 years of service with unreduced benefits" to bills HF3294/SF3314. It's not as good as Rule of 90, however, it will provide more equity to the career educators who have poured their hearts and souls into this profession. You will also free up funding by getting rid of the expensive teachers. It will attract and especially retain educators, and at the same time be adding to the substitute pool. We are being asked daily to cover for our colleagues. If we were free to sub in our respective districts, we could help alleviate the sub shortage.

The state has chronically underfunded educators' pensions for the past several decades, not to mention the salary freeze years educators sacrificed for Minnesota in bad times. We have done all that has been asked of us to make sure the students of Minnesota have the best education.

It is essential that we reform the pension system to ensure that educators receive the benefits they were promised and that the system is sustainable for future generations. We must ensure that the pension system is adequately funded and that educators have access to retirement benefits that will provide them with financial security.

The educational system has had a continued change to it throughout my 28 years of teaching. As an educator I am always working to improve my classroom and curriculum. It sure would be nice if the state would do the same for us with a pension reform that benefits all and not penalizes them!

I urge you to take action on educator pension reform in Minnesota by making the tiers more equitable. This is a crucial issue that affects the lives of educators throughout the state, and it is essential that we take steps to address it. By working together, we can ensure that educators in Minnesota receive the retirement benefits they deserve and that the state budget remains sustainable.

Thank you for your time and attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,  
Layne Danielson  
Brainerd Public Schools