

From: [Mollie A. Haspert](#)
To: [Lisa Diesslin](#)
Subject: Testimony for the Feb 13th LCPR meeting.
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 10:45:48 AM

All,

I'm sick of being underappreciated. I'm sick of being stuck with an underfunded and pitiful pension. I'm sick of being ignored by political leaders. I'm sick of being misunderstood by my own Union leaders at the State level. I'm sick of having a lack of substitute teachers and the guilt I feel when I have to be gone with no replacement. I'm sick of the media focusing on schools only when they are the scene of a crime. I'm sick of teaching in rooms with questionable ventilation during past, present and future illness outbreaks. I'm sick of thinking that I am expected to teach 11 years after my AARP membership kicks in.

I'm 52 years old. I've taught English/Language Arts at Roosevelt HS in Minneapolis for 29 years. Under our current Tier II pension, in order to retire with my full SELF-FUNDED pension benefits, I will have to teach for 43 years. 43 years! I don't know how anyone with a rational mind can look at those numbers and turn a blind eye. But, you see, folks HAVE turned a blind eye to this for DECADES!

Your Minnesota public school teachers are drowning. We're exhausted. We're beaten down. We DESERVE to enjoy our retirement well before Minnesota's current pension "Rule of Death."

ONLY YOU can make this happen. PLEASE look further into what Jay Stoffel and the TRA are telling you. Please look at "apples to apples" comparisons and don't rely solely on what Jay provides the LCPR. There is much more to this "pension story," that you aren't being told..

Your Minnesota public school teachers have been (and still are) in the trenches. Show us that you value us with your vote.

Mollie H Olson
Minneapolis Public School ELA Teacher
Plymouth, Mn