



Legislative Commission On Pensions and Retirement

Centennial Office Building
658 Cedar Street, 1st Floor
St. Paul, MN 55155

SENATE MEMBERS

Sen. Nick A. Frentz, Chair
Sen. Jeff R. Howe, Secretary
Sen. Carla J. Nelson
Sen. Sandra L. Pappas
Sen. Jordan Rasmusson
Sen. Judy Seeberger
Sen. Bonnie S. Westlin

HOUSE MEMBERS

Rep. Leon Lillie, Vice Chair
Rep. Ethan Cha
Rep. Josiah Hill
Rep. Pete Johnson
Rep. Danny Nadeau
Rep. Tim O'Driscoll
Rep. Terry Stier

COMMISSION STAFF

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March 3, 2026

Room G15, State Capitol Building

MINUTES

Call to order:

Chair Frentz called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.

Commission Members Present:

Senators Frentz, Howe, Nelson, Pappas, Rasmusson, Seeberger
Representatives Cha, Hill, Johnson, Lillie, Nadeau, O'Driscoll, Stier

Commission Members Absent:

Senator Westlin

Agenda Items

Approval of the February 24, 2026, meeting minutes.

Senator Seeberger moved approval of the February 24, 2026, meeting minutes. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

SF 1213 (Miller); HF 2117 (Repinski): Special legislation requiring MN State to find an individual's IRAP account or pay \$25,000.

➤ Representative O'Driscoll moved Amendment S1213-1A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Representative Repinski presented his bill.

TESTIFIERS

Molli Kook, retired teacher, testified in support of the bill.

Chris Dale, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Labor Relations for MN State Colleges and Universities, testified that MN State Colleges and Universities does not dispute that Ms. Kook made contributions to her IRAP account, but MN State has not been able to locate the account. Mr. Dale explained that the investment manager of the IRAP account was likely the State Board of Investment (SBI), so SBI should attempt to locate the account.

In response to members' questions, Ms. Kook testified that she never received a statement from the IRAP for the missing years in question (1991-1994), and that the IRAP account did not transfer into TRA when Ms. Kook transferred from the IRAP to TRA in November, 1994.

SF1213/HF2117, as amended, was laid over.

SF 3588 (Pappas); HF 3456 (Cha): Recommended legislation from the State Auditor's Fire Relief Association Working Group.

Senator Pappas gave an overview of the State Auditor's Fire Relief Association Working Group.

TESTIFIERS

Julie Blaha, MN State Auditor, and Rose Hennessy-Allen, Pension Division Coordinator, Office of the State Auditor, testified in support of the bill and gave a presentation titled "MN State Auditor's Fire Relief Association Working Group Presentation."

Aaron Johnston, Assistant Fire Chief, Coon Rapids Fire Department, testified in support of the bill.

In response to member's questions, Ms. Hennessy-Allen testified that relief associations have had pre-existing authority to add emergency medical personnel to their membership, so the proposed definition changes serve to clarify existing membership groups. Ms. Hennessy-Allen also testified that 18 relief associations provide monthly benefits; some associations have been replacing monthly benefits with an annuity and the statute needed to be clear that the pension fund could pay for those annuities.

In response to member's questions, State Auditor Blaha testified that the audit threshold had been reevaluated in 2024, when the audit threshold was changed from \$500,000 to \$750,000.

Senator Rasumusson offered Amendment S3588-1A and explained the changes to SF3588/HF3456.

- Senator Rasmusson moved Amendment S3588-1A. **MOTION FAILED.**
- Senator Pappas moved SF3588/HF3456, be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the 2026 omnibus pension bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

SF 3828 (Limmer); HF 3512 (Robbins): Special Legislation for the Maple Plain Fire Department; revising the allocation of surplus assets to firefighters upon termination from the Statewide Volunteer Firefighter Plan.

Representative Robbins and Senator Limmer presented SF 3828/HF 3512.

➤ Representative Hill moved Amendment S3828-1A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Susan Lenczewski, Executive Director of the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement, reviewed the staff summary of the bill.

TESTIFIERS

Jacob Schillander, City Administrator, Maple Plain, testified in support of the bill.

Julie M. Mass-Kusske, Mayor, Maple Plain, testified in support of the bill.

Justin McCoy, President, Maple Plain Fire Relief Association, testified in support of the bill.

Brian Rice, attorney for the Maple Plain Fire Relief Association, Rice, Walther & Mosley LLP, testified in support of the bill.

Doug Anderson, Executive Director, Public Employees Retirement Association, testified that the PERA board of trustees does not have a position on the bill, but stated his concerns.

Troy Denneson, trustee, Maple Plain Fire Relief Association, testified against the bill.

In response to members' questions, Mr. Anderson explained how present value is calculated when the fund is 100% funded and when there is a surplus. Mr. Anderson also testified that, from an actuarial perspective, the proposed changes under the bill are not fair and differ from the approach in the private sector, which the termination process for the PERA Statewide Volunteer Firefighter Plan is based on under current statute.

SF3828/HF3512, as amended, was laid over.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 p.m.