



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 24, 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, and Westlin
Representatives Cha, Hill, Johnson, Lillie, Nadeau, O'Driscoll, and Stier

Commission Members Absent:

None.

Agenda Items

Approval of the March 17, 2026, meeting minutes.

- Senator Westlin moved approval of the March 17, 2026, meeting minutes. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

SF4410 (Pappas); HF4069 (Feist): TRA and SPTRFA; modifying definition of teacher to exclude J- 1 visa holders; requiring refunds of employee contributions.

Senator Pappas offered Amendment SF4410-1A.

- Senator Pappas moved Amendment S4410-1A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Senator Pappas gave an overview of her bill.

Representative Feist provided further information on the bill.

Matthew Conley, Lattice Teachers, testified in support of the bill.

Melissa Schaller, Executive Director of Student Services, Intermediate School District 917, testified in support of the bill.

Kate Lynne Snyder, Education Minnesota, Lobbyist, testified regarding her concerns with the bill.

In response to members' questions, Mr. Conley testified that teachers who are J-1 Visa holders may only teach at a K-12 school.

[ISD 917 and ISD 199](#), and [Lakeville Area Schools](#) submitted letters in support of the bill.

The bill, as amended, was laid over.

Revisor No. 26- 07808 (Pappas): Secure Choice Retirement Program; revising definitions, covered employer requirements, annual reporting; prohibiting disclosure of confidential information; making administrative changes.

Senator Pappas offered Amendment 26-07808-1A.

Senator Pappas moved Amendment 26-07808-1A. **MOTION PREVAILED**

Chad Roberts, Executive Director, Minnesota Secure Choice Retirement Program, gave a brief overview of the bill.

The following submitted written testimony in support of the bill:

- [Cathy McLeer, State Director, AARP Minnesota](#)
- [Brian Cook, Director of Tax, Fiscal Policy, and Elections, Minnesota Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Jon Boesche, State Director, National Federation of Independent Business](#)

In response to a member's question, Mr. Roberts clarified the enrollment process and rollout of the program. Mr. Roberts also testified that even if an employee has opted out of the program, the employee can opt back in at any time.

- Senator Pappas moved Revisor No. 26-07808, as amended, be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the 2026 omnibus pension bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Recommendations of the Probation Officers and 911 Telecommunicators Pension Plans Work Group

Aleena Wilson, Analyst, Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement, gave a presentation titled “Probation Officers and 911 Telecommunicators Pension Plans Work Group: Summary of Report.”

Anne Finn, Intergovernmental Relations Director, League of Minnesota Cities, and co-chair of the Work Group, testified about the Work Group.

Scott Vadnais, President, Minnesota Professional Firefighters; Fire Captain, City of Edina Fire Department, and co-chair of the Work Group, testified about the Work Group.

Darlene Pankonie, ENP, Emergency Communications Response Center Manager, Washington County Sheriff’s Office; President, Minnesota Chapter of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials and National Emergency Number Association (APCO-NENA); provided a [letter](#) of support for LCPR26-012, LCPR26-013, LCPR26-017, and testified in support of the bills.

Mike LeDoux, Director of Legislative Affairs, Law Enforcement Labor Services (LELS), provided a [letter](#) of support from LELS, MN State Patrol Troopers Association, MN Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Agents Association, and MN Department of Correctional Fugitive Apprehension Agents Association, and testified in support of the bills.

Erin Leonard, Executive Director, Minnesota State Retirement System (MSRS), testified about the Work Group and in support of LCPR26-013.

Devin Bruce, Director of Legislative and Political Affairs, Minnesota Association of Professional Employees (MAPE), testified in support of LCPR26-013.

Jim Hawkins, Probation Officer, Ramsey County; International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 320 (Teamsters Local 320), testified in support of LCPR26-017.

Nicole Kern, Director, Community Corrections Morrison County; testifying on behalf of the MN Community Corrections Act Counties (MACCAC), testified in support of LCPR26-017.

Dr. Tami Jo Lieberg, Director, Kandiyohi Community Corrections; Former President, Minnesota Corrections Association (MCA); Legislative Co-Chair, MACCAC; Public Safety Liaison, Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), testified in support of LCPR26-017.

Nathan Jesson, Executive Director, Minnesota Inter-County Association (MICA), provided a joint [letter](#) with Matthew Hilgart, Deputy Director, AMC, and testified in support of LCPR26-017.

The following written testimony was submitted:

- [Letter from Doug Anderson, Executive Director, Public Employees Retirement Association \(PERA\) and Amy Streng, Policy Coordinator, PERA](#)
- [Letter from Kevin Glass, President, Minnesota Association of County Probation Officers \(MACPO\)](#)
- [MACPO, MCA, MAPE, Teamsters Local 320, and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Council 5 Handout](#)
- [Anne Glidden Felber, Career Probation Officer.](#)

Representative Nadeau offered Amendment LCPR26-017-1A.

In response to members' questions about the initial funding deficiency proposed for the new PERA plan under LCPR26-017, Doug Anderson, Executive Director, PERA, testified that the plan's costs are expected to decline over time as older employees retire and younger members join the plan. He testified that the Work Group chose a fixed contribution rate to balance contributions over time, rather than a gradually changing rate, but that either option would reduce the fund's insufficiency. He also testified that the plan's funding insufficiency is relatively small and will decrease over time with any of the proposed contribution options proposed to the Work Group by PERA.

After discussion, Representative Nadeau withdrew Amendment LCPR26-017-1A.

The three Work Group bills, LCPR26-017, LCPR26-012, and LCPR26-013, were laid over.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 p.m.