



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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April 21, 2026

Room G15, State Capitol Building

MINUTES

Call to order:

Chair Frentz called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Commission Members Present:

Senators Frentz, Howe, Nelson, Pappas, Rasmusson, Seeberger, and Westlin
Representatives Cha, Hill, Johnson, Lillie, and O'Driscoll.

Commission Member Absent: Representatives Nadeau and Stier.

Approval of the April 14, 2026, meeting minutes.

➤ Senator Westlin moved approval of the April 14, 2026, meeting minutes. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

SF4860 (Pappas); HF4812 (Lillie): St. Paul Teachers' Retirement Fund Association (SPTRFA); decreasing employee contributions; increasing employer contributions and postretirement adjustments; appropriating money.

Aleena Wilson, Analyst, Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement, reviewed the [SF4860-HF4812 summary](#).

Hannah Geimer, 2nd Grade Teacher, Saint Paul Public Schools, testified in support of the bill.

Eric Erickson, Teacher, Como Park High School, testified in support of the bill.

Arazue Foroozan, Teacher, Saint Paul Public Schools, testified in support of the bill.

Lisa Houdek, Teacher, Saint Paul Public Schools, testified in support of the bill.

Phill Tencick, Executive Director & Chief Investment Officer, St. Paul Teacher's Retirement Fund Association, testified in support of the bill, and provided a [handout](#) on SPTRFA members by legislative district.

The following written testimony was submitted:

[Letter](#) from Monica Byron, President, Education Minnesota

[Letter](#) from Leah VanDassor, President, Saint Paul Federation of Educators, Local #28

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The following written testimony was received from Saint Paul Public Schools Teachers, and are compiled into two documents ([Testimony from 4.14 meeting](#); [Testimony for 4.21 meeting](#)):

Janice Bisch, Teacher, SPPS

Elizabeth Blyakher, Teacher, Highland Park Senior High

Roni Bozvay, English Language Learner Teacher, SPPS

Elizabeth Brzinski, Teacher, SPPS

Natalee D'Amore, Counselor & Secondary English Teacher, SPPS

Eric Erickson, Teacher, Como Park High School

Arazue Foroozan, Teacher, SPPS

Nick Gasho, English Language Learner and French teacher, SPPS

Hannah Geimer, 2nd Grade Teacher, SPPS

Alexandra Hawksford, English Teacher & Debate Coach, SPPS

Lisa Houdek, Teacher, SPPS

Erica Hunt, Social Studies Teacher, Saint Paul Central High School

Kathleen Karp, High School Counselor, Saint Paul Central High School

Megan King, Teacher, Saint Paul Central High School

Jack Kozlowski, Teacher, Saint Paul Central High School

Kathleen J. Lang, 3rd Grade Teacher, Capitol Hill Gifted and Talented Magnet School

Micha Langenberg, Teacher, SPPS

Dan Mattimiro, Teacher, SPPS

Mike McKay, Math Teacher, SPPS, SPTRFA Trustee

Stephanie McCleerey, Teacher, SPPS

Rubens Modelli, High School Science Teacher, SPPS

John Mowry, Math Teacher, SPPS

Brad Ollman, Music Teacher, Capitol Hill Gifted and Talented Magnet School

Brian Paulson, Math Teacher, Saint Paul Central High School

Lynn Peterson, High School Health Teacher, SPPS

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Brian Reinhardt, Teacher & Coach, SPPS

Jennifer Singerhouse, Work-Based Learning Coordinator, Saint Paul Central High School

Marcela Telleria, High School Spanish Teacher, SPPS

Dayna Thomas, Elementary teacher, SPPS

Becky Valek, School Counselor, SPPS

Erin Whitcraft, English Teacher, SPPS

Steven Yernberg, Math Teacher, Saint Paul Central High School

Nicholas Onorato, Spanish Teacher, SPPS

Alec Timmerman, Teacher, SPPS

Anna Witt, Teacher, SPPS

Jason Schulkebie, Counselor, Highland Park Sr. High

Hedi Geimer, Retired Teacher, SPPS

Jonathan Oppenheimer, Social Worker, SPPS

[Ryan Backman](#), Math Teacher, Saint Paul Central High School

[Mai Sue Lee](#), School Counselor, SPPS

In response to a member's question, Mr. Tencick testified that SPTRFA has not been able to increase benefits due to past unfunded liabilities that are being amortized.

Senator Pappas stated that there was a period during which the state allowed SPPS to stop making employer contributions to SPTRFA, which contributed to SPTRFA's unfunded liability.

Senator Pappas gave closing comments on her bill.

The bill was laid over.

HF4402 (Jordan): PERA General; special legislation authorizing purchase of past service credit for periods of omitted service.

Representative Jordan gave an overview of her bill.

➤ Senator Nelson moved [amendment H4402-2A](#). **MOTION PREVAILED.**

In response to a member's question, Amy Strenge, Policy Coordinator, Public Employees Retirement Association, testified that the City of Minneapolis misclassified the employee, causing his service to not be credited for some periods of his employment with the city.

- Senator Frentz moved HF4402, as amended, be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the 2026 omnibus pension bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Senator Frentz passed the gavel to Representative Lillie.

SF1122 (Frentz); HF139 (O'Driscoll): PERA Police & Fire; MSRS State Patrol; increasing COLAs; reducing the waiting period for a PERA P&F Plan COLA.

Senator Frentz reviewed his bill.

Representative O'Driscoll gave additional background on the bill.

Representative Lillie asked the authors if they'd like to move the [delete-everything amendment S1122-DE1](#).

Ms. Wilson reviewed the [S1122-DE1 summary](#).

- Senator Frentz moved S1122-DE1. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Erin Leonard, Executive Director, Minnesota State Retirement Systems (MSRS), testified that MSRS does not have a position on the bill and shared the cost estimate for the bill.

David Titus, Executive Director, Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association, testified in support of the bill and provided a [letter](#) from the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association.

Brian Rice, Lobbyist, Rice, Walther & Mosely, LLP, testified in support of the bill and provided a [letter](#) from Brian Rice on behalf of the Minnesota Retired Police Pension Association.

Scott Vadnais, President, Minnesota Professional Firefighters, testified in support of the bill.

Mike LeDoux, Director of Legislative Affairs, Law Enforcement Labor Services, testified in support of the bill, and provided two handouts ([2021 LCPR COLA Study Report](#); [LCPR Principles of Pension Policy](#)).

The following written testimony was submitted:

[Letter](#) from Shane Hallow, President, Hennepin County Association of Paramedics and EMTs

[Letter](#) from Law Enforcement Labor Services

[Letter](#) from Doug Anderson, Executive Director, Amy Strenge, Policy Coordinator, Public Employees Retirement Association

Senator Frentz gave closing comments on his bill.

The bill, as amended, was laid over.

Representative Lillie passed the gavel to Senator Frentz.

SF4572 (Rasmusson); HF4367 (Klevorn): State Board of Investment; modifying expense apportionment among funds managed by the SBI.

- Senator Rasmusson moved [amendment S4572-1A](#). **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Senator Rasmusson reviewed his bill and amendment S4572-1A.

John Mulé, General Counsel, State Board of Investment, testified in support of the bill.

The bill, as amended, was laid over.

HF 4162 (O'Driscoll): TRA; requiring the employer of a reemployed annuitant to make employer contributions.

Representative O'Driscoll gave an overview of his bill and the [delete-everything amendment H4162-DE1](#).

In response to a member's question, Representative O'Driscoll stated that the bill as amended would apply to all Minnesota pension plans except St. Paul Teachers and the State Patrol Plan, and that there is no additional cost to the state.

- Representative O'Driscoll moved H4162-DE1. **MOTION PREVAILED.**
- Representative Cha moved HF4162, as amended, be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the 2026 omnibus pension bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

SF4766 (Seeberger); HF4723 (Johnson): Requiring firefighter relief associations to cover emergency medical providers; allowing participation in the PERA defined contribution plan and a relief association retirement plan.

Senator Seeberger gave background on her bill and reviewed the [delete-everything amendment S4766-DE1](#).

- Senator Seeberger moved S4766-DE1. **MOTION PREVAILED.**
- Senator Seeberger moved SF4766/HF4723, as amended, be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the 2026 omnibus pension bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.