



March 29, 2016

Room 10 State Office Building

MINUTES

Call to order:

Representative Tim O'Driscoll, Chair of the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement, called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Commission Members Present:

Representatives Albright, Anderson, Murphy, O'Driscoll, and Thissen
Senators Pappas, Goodwin, Hayden, Johnson, Rosen, and Thompson

Commission Members Absent:

Representatives Erickson and Kresha, and Senator Saxhaug

Agenda Items

HF2810 (Howe); SF2743 (Pappas): PERA-P&F; Modifying public safety officer death benefits; adopting definitions of the Hometown Heroes Act.

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

Rep. Jeff Howe testified in support of his bill.

Dennis Flaherty, Executive Director, Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association, testified in support of the bill.

Chris Parsons, President, Minnesota Professional Fire Fighters, testified in support of the bill.

Shana Jones, Policy Director, PERA, testified that PERA is not opposed to the bill.

Sen. Pappas recommended that only Section 2 of her bill, relating to PERA, be included in the omnibus retirement bill and that she plans to remove Section 2 and have the remainder of the bill (not PERA-related) move separately.

Brian Rice, representing the Minnesota Professional Firefighters, testified in support of the bill.

The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in an omnibus retirement bill.

Approval of Minutes.

Rep. Albright moved adoption of the March 22, 2016, meeting. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

HFxxxx (Metsa); SFxxxx, LCPR16-035: TRA, MnSCU-IRAP; Coverage election for certain eligible faculty members not offered a coverage election upon reaching tenure.

Rachel Barth, Deputy Director, Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement, reviewed the bill.

Rep. Jason Metsa testified in support of his bill.

Dawn Olson, one of the individuals affected by the bill, testified in support of the bill.

Mary Kay Riendeau, one of the individuals affected by the bill, testified in support of the bill.

Derek Hughes, System Director of Compensation and Retirement, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System (MnSCU), testified that the language is fair and that MnSCU is willing to pay the cost.

Ms. Barth explained that the difference in the purchase payment amounts is because Ms. Olson is eligible for the Rule of 90 due to other public service.

The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in an omnibus retirement bill.

HF3136 (Thissen); SF2853 (Pappas): Increasing the maximum permissible employer contribution to a supplemental laborers pension fund.

Ms. Lenczewski reviewed the bill.

Rep. Thissen and Sen. Pappas testified in support of their bill.

Russell Hess, Political Coordinator, Laborers District Council of Minnesota and North Dakota, testified in support of the bill.

The bill was laid over for possible inclusion in an omnibus retirement bill.

HF3606 (Erhardt); SFxxxx: MSRS-Correctional; Corrections Department employee transfer of prior general plan service and retirement annuity adjustment.

The bill was not heard.

Amendment H2807-2A: Commission staff technical corrections.

The amendment was not heard.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Lisa Diesslin, Commission Assistant