

Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement

55 State Office Building

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St. Paul, MN 55155-1201

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March 2, 2021

REMOTE MEETING

MINUTES

Call to order:

Senator Julie Rosen called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The meeting was conducted through Zoom and broadcast via YouTube.

Commission Members Present:

Representatives Berg, Frederick, Her, Murphy, Nelson, O'Driscoll, and Rasmusson
Senators Frentz, Howe, Jasinski, Pappas, Rarick, Rosen, and Senjem

Agenda Items

Approval of February 23, 2021, meeting minutes.

Sen. Jasinski moved approval of the February 23, 2021, meeting minutes. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

SF 976 (Pappas); HF 1258 (Becker-Finn): Minnesota Secure Choice Retirement Program.

Sen. Pappas presented her bill.

Kate Schaefer, AARP Volunteer President, testified in support and provided a handout.

Jason Rathe, Owner, Field Outdoor Spaces, testified in support and reviewed his company's program.

Shari Lackey, home care worker and SEIU Healthcare Minnesota leader, testified in support of the bill.

Michael Parker, Executive Director, Oregon Savings Network, testified in support and reviewed the Oregon program, and answered questions from members.

Robyn Rowan, Executive Director, MN Insurance & Financial Services Council, testified in opposition to the bill.

Mansco Perry, Executive Director and Chief Investment Officer, State Board of Investment, was available to answer questions.

HF 1678 (Youakim): Reinstates the state aid to local governments to fund increased employer contributions to PERA enacted in 1997.

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

Rep. Youakim presented and testified in support of her bill.

Doug Anderson, Executive Director, Public Employees Retirement Association, testified in support of the bill.

Gary Carlson, Executive Director, League of Minnesota Cities, testified in support of the bill and provided a joint letter of support from the League of Minnesota Cities, Minnesota Inter-County Association, MetroCities, Association of Minnesota Counties, Municipal Legislative Commission, and Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities.

Matt Hilgart, Government Relations Manager, Association of Minnesota Counties, testified in support of the bill.

Matt Massman, Executive Director, Minnesota Inter-County Association, testified in support of the bill.

Brian Rice, representing AFSCME Council 5, testified in support of the bill.

Submitted: Feedback from the Minnesota Department of Revenue.

Sen. Rosen moved HF 1678 be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the 2021 omnibus pension bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

SF 1454 (Pappas); HF 1497 (Feist): Revises eligibility for H-1b visa employees under MSRS and PERA to comply with federal law.

Ms. Lenczewski reviewed the bill.

Rep. Sandra Feist presented and testified in support of the bill.

Erin Leonard, Executive Director, Minnesota State Retirement System, testified that MSRS is not in opposition to the change.

Rep. Murphy moved SF 1454; HF 1497 be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the 2021 omnibus pension bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

HF 1758 (Nelson, M.): PERA 2021 administrative bill.

- Amendment H1758-1A

Chad Burkitt, Analyst, reviewed the bill and the amendment.

Doug Anderson, Executive Director, PERA, testified in support of the bill.

Rep. Nelson moved Amendment H1758-1A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Rep. Nelson moved HF 1758, as amended, be recommended to pass and serve as the vehicle for the 2021 omnibus pension bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Adoption of the Report on the LCPR Study of Postretirement Adjustments (COLAs).

Chad Burkitt, Analyst, and Susan Lenczewski, Executive Director, Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement, reviewed the presentation on the COLA study.

There was no action on this agenda item.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.