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Rep. Tim O'Driscoll, Secretary
Rep. Kaela Berg
Rep. Ethan Cha
Rep. Danny Nadeau
Rep. Michael Nelson
Rep. Dan Wolgamott

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Sen. Jeff R. Howe
Sen. Carla J. Nelson
Sen. Sandra L. Pappas
Sen. Jordan Rasmusson
Sen. Judy Seeberger
Sen. Bonnie S. Westlin

COMMISSION STAFF

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April 2, 2024

Room 120, State Capitol

MINUTES

Call to order:

Chair Her called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Commission Members Present:

Representatives Berg, Her, Nadeau, Nelson, O'Driscoll, Wolgamott
Senators Frentz, Howe, Nelson, Pappas, Rasmusson, Seeberger, Westlin

Commission Members Absent:

Representative Cha

Agenda Items

Approval of March 18, 2024, and March 25, 2024, meeting minutes

Rep. Berg moved approval of the [March 18, 2024](#), and [March 25, 2024](#), meeting minutes. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

SF 5197 (Pappas): MSRS General; Authorizing foreign citizens employed by public employers on a H-1B, H-1B1, or E3 visa to purchase service credit for a prior period of employment as an excluded employee

- Senator Pappas moved SF5197 be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the omnibus pension and retirement bill.

Sen. Pappas presented SF5197.

Susan Lenczewski, Executive Director, Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement (LCPR), reviewed the [staff summary](#) of the bill.

Testimony on SF5197:

- Krisann McMahan, Retirement Programs Manager, Human Resources, University of Minnesota testified in support of the bill.

- Erin Leonard, Executive Director, Minnesota State Retirement System (MSRS), testified that MSRS has concerns that the process of purchase of past service relies on the employer and payment may not cover the actuarial cost of the purchase and that there is no purchase deadline or end date.
- Senator Pappas withdrew her motion that SF5197 be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the omnibus pension and retirement bill.
- Senator Pappas moved to lay over SF5197 be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus pension and retirement bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

HF 4358 (Brand); SF 5288 (Frentz): MSRS Correctional; Adding registered nurse-supervisor to the positions eligible for coverage and moving group supervisor and group supervisor assistant positions.

- Sen. Frentz moved HF4358/SF5288 be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus pension and retirement bill.

Rep. Brand and Sen. Frentz presented HF4358/SF5288.

- Sen. Frentz moved [Amendment H4358-1A](#). **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Testimony on HF4358/SF5288:

- Clayton Diehl, St. Peter Treatment Center, Middle Management Association Vice President, testified in support of the bill.
- Ms. Leonard testified that move classifications from one list to the other list would be an unusual change and that the bill does not allow the purchase of past service.
- Sen. Frentz renewed his motion that HF4358/SF5288, as amended, be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus pension and retirement bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

HF 4666 (Wolgamott); SF 4878 (Frentz): PERA P&F; Increasing the post-retirement adjustment; decreasing the waiting period for a post-retirement adjustment.

- Rep. Wolgamott moved HF4666/SF4878 be laid over for possible inclusion in the omnibus pension and retirement bill.

Rep. Wolgamott and Sen. Frentz presented HF4666/SF7878.

Sean Kelly, Deputy Director, LCPR, reviewed the [staff summary](#) of the bill.

Testimony on HF4666/SF4878:

- Doug Anderson, Executive Director, Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA), testified that the board supports the bill ([letter of support](#)) provided that the cost of the benefits is fully funded.
- Captain Scott Vadnais, Minnesota Professional Fire Fighters President, testified in support of the bill.
- Brian Rice, representing the Minnesota Police Fraternal Association, provided a [handout](#) and testified in support of the bill.

Submitted testimony on HF4666/SF4878:

- [Association of Minnesota Counties and Minnesota Inter-County Association](#)
- [Hennepin County Association of Paramedics and EMTs](#)
- [Saint Paul Firefighters IAFF Local 21 and Saint Paul Police Federation](#)
- [MSP Airport Fire Fighters IAFF Local S-6](#)

➤ Chair Her laid over HF4666/SF4878.

HF 5137 (Wolgamott): PERA P&F; Permitting payment of a normal retirement annuity without reduction or suspension upon employment or reemployment on or after age 55.

➤ Rep. Wolgamott moved HF5137 be laid over.

➤ Rep. Wolgamott moved [Amendment H5137-2A](#). **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Mr. Kelly reviewed the [staff summary](#) of the bill.

Testimony on HF5137:

- Mr. Anderson provided a [memo](#) and testified that the board does not support the provisions of the bill because the costs are not covered.
- Inspector Dave Titus, Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association President, testified in support of the bill.
- Captain Vadnais testified in support of the bill.
- Chief Brady Juell, Elko-New Market Police Chief, Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association Board of Directors, and representing the Minnesota Sheriff's Association, testified in support of the bill.
- Ms. Leonard testified that in the State Patrol Plan when retirees return to work they earn additional benefits, unlike the bill under discussion, and that the demographics are different between the State Patrol Plan and PERA P&F.

Submitted testimony on HF5137:

- Brian Rice, representing the Minnesota Police Fraternal Association, [handouts](#)
- [Association of Minnesota Counties and Minnesota Inter-County Association](#)
- [Law Enforcement Labor Services, Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association, Minnesota Sheriffs Association, and Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association](#)

➤ Rep. Wolgamott renewed his motion that HF5137, as amended, be laid over.

➤ Chair Her laid over HF5137, as amended.

HF xxxx (Nelson); SF 5227 (Rasmusson): All plans; Resolving a conflict in the statute that dictates the established date for full funding; deleting obsolete provisions.

➤ Sen. Rasmusson moved SF5227 be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the omnibus pension and retirement bill.

Sen. Rasmusson and Rep. Nelson presented HFxxxx/SF5227.

- Sen. Rasmusson moved [Amendment S5227-2A](#), which was prepared at the request of the pension plan directors. **MOTION PREVAILED.**
- Sen. Rasmusson moved [Amendment S5227-1A](#). **MOTION DID NOT PREVAIL.**

Sen. Rasmusson called for division. Upon division, the **MOTION DID NOT PREVAIL.**

Ms. Lenczewski reviewed the [staff summary](#) of the bill.

Testimony on SF5227:

- Jay Stoffel, Executive Director, Teachers Retirement Association (TRA), testified in opposition to the -1A amendment.
- Kate Lynne Snyder, Education Minnesota testified in opposition to the -1A amendment.
- Mr. Anderson testified in support of the bill and in support of the -2A work group amendment.

Sen. Rasmusson renewed his motion that SF5227, as amended, be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the omnibus pension and retirement bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Revisor #24- 08106: All plans; Changing the lookback for the full funding threshold from one year to three years.

- Sen. Frentz moved Revisor #24-08106 be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the omnibus pension and retirement bill.

Ms. Lenczewski reviewed the [staff summary](#) of the bill.

Testimony on Revisor #24-08106:

- Mr. Anderson testified that while PERA does not have an official position, he believes it is a step in the right direction.
 - Mr. Stoffel testified that TRA does not have an official position, but he is in favor of the bill.
 - Rick Heller, unofficially representing the Twice Exceptional and Print Disabled, testified regarding the inaccessibility of HFxxxx/SFxxxx un-introduced Revisor documents not available in HTML format.
- Sen. Frentz renewed his/her motion that Revisor #24-08106 be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the omnibus pension and retirement bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.