

# Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement

Representative Kaohly Vang Her, Chair

Monday, February 27, 2023 – 8:30 AM  
Capitol Room 120

## AGENDA

1. Approval of [February 20, 2023](#), meeting minutes.

2. HF xxxx; [SF 1910 \(Frentz\)](#): Higher Education Individual Retirement Account Plan (IRAP): Increasing the employer contribution rate.

- [Amendment Hxxxx.S1910-1A](#)
- [Amendment Hxxxx.S1910-2A](#)

Staff review: Susan Lenczewski ([staff summary](#))

Testifiers: Devin Bruce, Public Affairs Coordinator, Minnesota Association of Professional Employees (MAPE)

Jonathan Bohn, Director of Public Affairs, Inter Faculty Organization (IFO)

Mark Grant, Communication Studies Instructor and Governmental Relations/Lobbyist,  
Minnesota State College Faculty (MSCF)

Edward Reynoso, Director of Political and Legislative Affairs, Teamsters Local #320

3. Minnesota State Higher Education Retirement Account Plan (IRAP) / Teachers Retirement Association (TRA) coverage elections and service credit transfers.

Staff review: Susan Lenczewski ([staff summary of all three bills](#))

a. HF xxxx; [SF 1995 \(Seeberger\)](#): IRAP, TRA; Permits a Minnesota State employee to elect TRA coverage and receive retroactive service credit.

Testifiers: Dr. Marta Mohr, System Director for Academic Programs, Planning, and Transfer,  
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

Derek Hughes, System Director for Total Rewards/Human Resources,  
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

Jay Stoffel, Executive Director, Teachers Retirement Association (TRA)

b. [HF 1499 \(Olson, L.\)](#); [SF 1420 \(McEwen\)](#): IRAP, TRA; Permits certain Fond Du Lac Tribal and Community College employees to elect TRA coverage and receive retroactive service credit.

Testifiers: Ariel Johnson (*via Zoom*), Nandagikendan (Seek to Learn) Academy Director,  
Fond Du Lac Tribal and Community College

Devin Bruce, Public Affairs Coordinator, Minnesota Association of Professional  
Employees (MAPE)

Jay Stoffel, Executive Director, Teachers Retirement Association (TRA)

Derek Hughes, System Director for Total Rewards/Human Resources,  
Minnesota State Colleges and Universities

c. **LCPR23-021: IRAP, TRA; General legislation permitting Minnesota State employees to elect TRA coverage and receive retroactive service credit.**

Testifiers: Devin Bruce, Public Affairs Coordinator, Minnesota Association of Professional Employees (MAPE)  
Derek Hughes, System Director for Total Rewards/Human Resources, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities  
Jay Stoffel, Executive Director, Teachers Retirement Association (TRA)

**4. Stakeholder testimony on benefit improvements for teachers.**

Testifiers:

Jay Stoffel, Executive Director, Teachers Retirement Association ([handout](#))  
Phillip Tencick, Executive Director, St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund Association  
Scott Vedbraaten, Superintendent, Browerville Public Schools  
Jason Savage, Principal, Pillager High School ([handout](#))  
Jeff Kocur, Teacher, Hopkins Schools  
Jim McComas-Bussa, Math Teacher, Roosevelt High School in Minneapolis  
Dr. Liz Keeling, English and French teacher, Champlin Park High School  
Ryan Fiereck, Teacher, St. Francis School District, Local President and former Vice President, Education Minnesota  
Julie Seiler, Teacher, Spring Lake Park, Co-chair, Education Minnesota's Pension Task Force  
William Baumann, Retired Teacher, Co-chair, Education Minnesota's Pension Task Force  
Lonnie Duberstein, Past President and Legislative Committee Co-Chair, Retired Educators Association of Minnesota (REAM)  
Joan Beaver, Legislative Action Chair, Education Minnesota Retired

Submitted testimony:

[Kelly Savage](#), High School Special Education Instructor, Pillager Public Schools  
[Paul Peterson](#), Teacher, International Falls  
[Kim McDonald](#), Title Teacher, Falls Elementary School  
[Jim Reed](#), Media Teacher, Brainerd

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**TESTIFYING:** To testify or submit written testimony on an agenda item, please contact the Commission staff at [lisa.diesslin@lcpr.mn.gov](mailto:lisa.diesslin@lcpr.mn.gov) by **3:00 PM on Friday, February 24**, identifying the specific item on which you would like to testify. Testimony is limited to the items listed on the agenda.

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