Support letter for Finance Committee members Meeting Date 5/11/26

Dear Clerk of Finance Committee,

Please support the 911 and Probation Officer Pension plan. I have been employed in probation for the past 26 years and would be required to work in the field for 43 years before retiring without losing a large portion of my retirement. The probation officer group supports this plan. The only grievance is the generational inequity since many members like me have more years in the current plan than what we could have in the new plan and the buyback fees may be out of reach.

However, there is still a benefit for years worked in the new plan since it does not get reduced after age 60. I paid for Rule 90 probation officer's plan and did not receive benefit from that plan, nor will I have enough years in the new plan to offset the reduction for drawing on my old plan before age 66. Despite it not being perfect it is still a huge step forward for our field that serves on the public safety continuum and should be treated as such. Please consider supporting the Bill today.

- I support the probation officer and 911 telecommunicator pension bill and ask that you vote yes for the pension omnibus bill.
- I am a probation officer and am asking for your support of the probation officer pension bill. While this bill is not perfect, it is a fair compromise and a major step forward for probation officers across Minnesota.
    - Probation officers play a critical role throughout the entire criminal justice process, from sentencing to supervision, rehabilitation, victim safety, and community accountability. We regularly face trauma, volatile situations, and public safety risks similar to those experienced by law enforcement.
- It is critical to finally create a pension plan recognizing the vital public safety work probation officers and 911 staff provide in communities across MN.
- This plan is the consensus product of the legislative work group involving people from all sides of the issue and has full support of the Corrections organizations across the state.
- This plan is the culmination of intensive work and compromise over the last 3 years.
- It was passed unanimously and with full bipartisan support in the LCPR (Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement).
- I believe this is the most reasonable/workable plan that provides tangible/real/concrete/meaningful benefits for all probation and 911 staff across our state. This is long overdue.

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