

Dear Finance Committee,

I am writing to respectfully ask for your support of Pension Omnibus Bill SF4276-DE2, Article 5, including LCPR Amendments S4276-10A and S4276-11A, establishing the Local Government Probation and Telecommunicator Retirement Plan administered through PERA.

I currently serve as a probation officer in Minnesota. Probation officers play a vital public safety role throughout the criminal justice process, including supervision, rehabilitation, victim safety, accountability, crisis response, and community protection. Much like law enforcement and 911 professionals, we regularly work in volatile environments and experience ongoing exposure to trauma and public safety risks.

This proposal represents the culmination of more than three years of collaboration, compromise, and legislative work involving stakeholders from all sides of the issue. It has earned the support of corrections organizations across Minnesota and passed unanimously with bipartisan support through the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement (LCPR).

I believe this is a fair, reasonable, and meaningful plan that finally recognizes the critical work probation officers and 911 staff provide to communities throughout our state. This recognition is long overdue, and the long-term impact would include stronger public safety, improved services for clients, healthier retirements for those serving in these roles, and better recruitment and retention of experienced professionals across Minnesota.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and service to Minnesota. I respectfully ask for your support of this legislation.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Olson

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