

May 8, 2026

I wanted to write a letter to let you know I strongly support the probation officer and 911 communicator pension bill. I am 45 years old and I was a 911 operator for 10 years and have been a probation officer for over three years now. I can tell you firsthand that we make a big difference in preventing crime before it starts! I never knew until I worked in this position how hard and passionately people work to help offenders learn skills and become better members of the community. We go out to clients' homes, meet with them in jails in prisons, and have office visits and cognitive skill building classes. These jobs include long, nontraditional hours and my coworkers carry different loads of vicarious trauma because of the situations they're in and the clients they care about. We are building better people, stronger families, quality relationships, and safer communities, one person at a time!

I understand this bill is not perfect and I hear there is some backlash from a group of people, but please have faith and recognize how important this is for our younger probation officers and 911 dispatchers, and more importantly, the future of this line of work. Every state around Minnesota has retirement plans in line with law enforcements, Minnesota is the only exception. We need this bill to pass in order to ensure that the future of probation and 911 dispatchers is a good and important career that is recognized. We need healthy, sharp, passionate people in this line of work in order to provide the best outcomes. I'm confident that everyone in my office in central MN is in support of this bill. Although a few of the older members are frustrated and the younger employees aren't as opinionated about things that affect them 30 years from now, they all understand the importance of this bill.

Please support Minnesota probation officers, 911 dispatchers, and the safety of our employees and communities and by supporting this bill!

Thank you so much,

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