



**AARP Testimony on Secure Choice Implementation
Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement
March 25, 2025**

Chair Frenz and Commission Members,

For nearly a decade, AARP has advocated for the creation of an impactful Secure Choice Retirement Program in Minnesota. AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to helping people ages 50 and older improve their quality of life as they age. In doing so, we focus not only on those nearing and currently in retirement but also those who are at all stages of their careers and will retire in the future.

Small business owners want to offer retirement savings options, and employees want to save. The problem is the lack of access. Costs can be prohibitive for small businesses to offer their own plans, so by pooling resources, we can create economies of scale and offer lower-cost products.

The benefits of increased retirement savings go beyond individual savers and their families. Affording Minnesota workers an effortless way to save for retirement will ultimately save taxpayer dollars, as fewer households will need to rely on social services. Rebuilding the promise of financial security in retirement must include modern, expanded options. AARP believes that we all have a right to live with self-reliance and dignity in retirement.

AARP respectfully asks for your support of legislation that will allow for the timely and effective implementation of the Secure Choice Retirement Program for Minnesota. Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony.

Thomas Elness
State Advocacy Director
AARP Minnesota