MNCORA

Minnesota Correctional Officer Retirement Association

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Pension Commission Chair Frentz and Commissioners,

The Minnesota Correctional Officer Retirement Association (MNCORA) asks that you support HF708 and SF1556 a Bill to add a PERA Correctional Officer to the PERA Board.

The PERA Correctional Plan was formed in 1999 and currently has 13,144 members and over \$1.2 billion in the fund. This is the only plan we can find in the Country with a billion dollars in their pension plan without seat on their pension board.

The last time a change was made to the PERA Board was 1995, four years before the creation of our plan and it should be noted that the State Correctional Officers have a dedicated seat on the MSRS pension board.

A major change took place to the PERA Correctional Officers status as of January 1, 2025. They are now Public Safety Officers per the Federal Government thanks to the Secure Act 2.0. This is the same designation as Police and Fire

Published on PERA's website is, "The Secure 2.0 Act of 2022 now includes correctional officers in the federal definition of public safety employees. Review your employee benefits for other impacts with this law change."

Over the years there have been several attempts to merge other non-correctional job classes into the PERA Correctional Plan. The differences are now even greater with the new classification of Public Safety Officer with newer tax, disability and retirement benefits.

MNCORA asks you to support this seat long overdue on PERA's Board. MNCORA also reminds you this is an unpaid seat and will not cost the State of Minnesota or its taxpayers a dime.

Signed, The MNCORA Executive Board