



April 6, 2005  
Room 15 Capitol

4<sup>th</sup> Meeting

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT

MINUTES

**Call to order:**

Senator Lawrence Pogemiller, Chair of the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement, called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

**Commission Members Present:**

Representatives Mary Murphy, Dennis Ozment, Steve Smith, and Lynn Wardlow  
Senators Don Betzold, Keith Langseth, Cal Larson, Geoff Michel, and Lawrence Pogemiller

**Commission Member Absent:**

Representative Paul Thissen

**Agenda Items**

**S.F. 431 (Betzold); H.F. 2088 (Smith): First Class City Teacher Plans; Sabbatical Leave Service Credit Provisions Update;**  
**S.F. 432 (Betzold); H.F. 2087 (Smith): First Class City Teacher Plans; Extended Leave of Absence Program Technical Amendments; and**  
**S.F. 435 (Betzold); H.F. 2114 (Smith): Various; Omitted Salary Deductions Provisions Update and Clarification**

Senator Pogemiller announced that these three bills would be laid over for interim study.

**S.F. 429 (Betzold); H.F. 2090 (Smith): PERA; Collection Procedures for Unpaid Charter School Employer Contributions**

Lawrence Martin, Executive Director, Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement, reviewed the staff memo and policy issues raised by the bill.

Senator Betzold moved amendment LCPR05-183. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Representative Smith moved S.F. 429; H.F. 2090, as amended, be recommended for inclusion in the omnibus retirement bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

**S.F. 430 (Betzold); H.F. 2089 (Smith): Various Plans; Public Pension Plan Administrative Expense Itemization in Financial Reports**

Mr. Martin reviewed the staff memo and policy issues raised by the bill.

Representative Smith moved amendment LCPR05-221. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Representative Murphy moved S.F. 430; H.F. 2089, as amended, be recommended for inclusion in the omnibus retirement bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

**S.F. 437 (Betzold); H.F. 2095 (Smith): First Class City Teacher Plans; Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws Periodic Update Requirement**

Mr. Martin reviewed the staff memo and policy issues raised by the bill and amendment LCPR05-222.

Senator Larson moved amendment LCPR05-222. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Senator Larson moved S.F. 437; H.F. 2095, as amended, be recommended for inclusion in the omnibus retirement bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

**S.F. 438 (Betzold); H.F. 2093 (Smith): Various Plans; Retirement Plans Process and Taxation Exemptions Clarification**

Mr. Martin reviewed the staff memo and policy issues raised by the bill and amendment LCPR05-219.

Brian Rice, representing the Minneapolis Fire and Minneapolis Police relief associations, testified in favor of allowing the Minneapolis Firefighters Relief Association and the Minneapolis Police Relief Association to retain their assignment language.

Senator Betzold moved amendment LCPR05-219. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

*Representative Murphy moved S.F. 438; H.F. 2093, as amended, be recommended for inclusion in the omnibus retirement bill. MOTION PREVAILED.*

**S.F. 439 (Betzold); H.F. 2094 (Smith): Various Plans; Retirement Provisions Update, Clarification and Correction**

Representative Wardlow moved amendment LCPR05-220. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Senator Betzold moved amendment LCPR05-169. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Representative Wardlow moved S.F. 439; H.F. 2094, as amended, be recommended for inclusion in the omnibus retirement bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

**S.F. 996 (Betzold); H.F. 1636 (Hornstein): MSRS; Allowable Service Credit Purchase for Strike Periods**

Edward Burek, Deputy Director, Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement, reviewed the staff memo and policy issues raised by the bill.

Luther Thompson, Assistant Executive Director, TRA, testified that TRA would support a general provision and that a time limit would be acceptable.

David Bergstrom, Executive Director, MSRS, testified that MSRS would prefer a general provision and that they would be comfortable with a time limit.

Mary Vanek, Executive Director, PERA, testified that PERA would support a general provision and time limit.

Senator Betzold moved amendment LCPR05-163.

Ronald Lloyd, Amalgamated Transit Union 1005, testified that the pension issue came up after the strike and was not part of the negotiations.

Paul Larson, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Employee Relations, testified that he was on the negotiating team during the strike and this issue did not come up. Mr. Larson indicated that he did not have a formal position on the bill and that they are prohibited from bargaining on pension issues.

Mr. Martin clarified that neither side can mandate the other side to bargain.

Mr. Bergstrom testified that the original bill gives the employer the option to pay.

Senator Betzold moved amendment LCPR05-163, amended by adding language on page 4, lines 7-8 where appropriate. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Senator Betzold moved S.F. 996; H.F. 1636, as amended, be recommended for inclusion in the omnibus retirement bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

**S.F. 1160 (Senjem); H.F. 567 (Demmer): MSRS, PERA, and State Patrol Retirement Plan; Military Service Credit Purchase Sunset Repealed**

Mr. Burek reviewed the staff memo and policy issues raised by the bill.

Senator Senjem testified in support of his bill, noting the provision may expire before the conclusion of next year's Legislative Session.

Mr. Bergstrom testified to his concern with a May 2006 date and the legislative process.

Senator Betzold moved amendment LCPR05-071, with a date of 2007. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Senator Larson moved S.F. 1160, as amended, be recommended for inclusion in the omnibus retirement bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

**S.F. 1165 (Betzold); H.F. 1255 (Smith): Judges Retirement Plan; Authorized Leaves of Absence Allowable Service Credit Purchase**

Mr. Martin reviewed the staff memo and policy issues raised by the bill.

Sandra Neren, representing the Judges Association, testified in support of the bill and provided handout materials and an amendment.

Judge Marilyn Kamen, 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, testified in support of the bill.

Ms. Neren testified to her concern regarding amendment LCPR05-142.

Senator Betzold moved amendment LCPR05-141. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Senator Betzold moved to reconsider the adoption of amendment LCPR05-141. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Senator Betzold moved amendment LCPR05-142, amended on lines 6-7 to delete "not to exceed one year...". **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Senator Betzold moved S.F. 1165; H.F. 1255, as amended, be recommended for inclusion in the omnibus retirement bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

***S.F. 648 (Betzold, by request); H.F. 1374 (Erickson): TRA; Providing for a School Administrator to Serve on the Teachers Retirement Association Board***

Mr. Burek reviewed the staff memo and policy issues raised by the bill.

Roger Aronson, representing school principals, testified in support of the bill.

Mr. Thompson testified that of the 72,000 members, 2700 are administrators.

Senator Betzold moved amendment LCPR05-040. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Mr. Thompson testified that TRA is opposed to the bill.

The bill was laid over.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

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Lisa Diesslin, Administrative Secretary