



May 13, 2005
Room 15 Capitol

11th 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, Paul Thissen, and Lynn Wardlow
Senators Don Betzold, Keith Langseth, Cal Larson, Geoff Michel, and Lawrence Pogemiller

Agenda Items

S.F. 1865 (Kelley); H.F. 2410 (Greiling): TRA; School Administrators Retirement Coverage Option; Cooperative Agreements with Other States for Combined Service (delete-all amendment LCPR05-279)

Senator Kelley reviewed the bill in the form of delete-all amendment LCPR05-279.

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

Mr. Charlie Kyte, Executive Director, Minnesota Association of School Administrators, testified that the salaries are in the range of \$140,000 to \$160,000.

Senator Larson moved S.F. 1865/H.F. 2410 be laid over. **MOTION FAILED.**

Senator Betzold moved to adopt Section 4. **MOTION FAILED.**

Omnibus Retirement Bill II (in the form of delete-all amendment LCPR05-307)

Mr. Lawrence Martin, Executive Director, Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement, reviewed amendment LCPR05-207.

Senator Betzold moved amendment LCPR05-207. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Senator Betzold moved amendment LCPR05-311. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Mr. David Kelliher, Minnesota Historical Society, testified that he does not know the number of people who would be affected, but it would be very few.

Non-Agenda Item

Amendment LCPR05-317, Survivor Benefit for Spouse of St. Louis Park Police Officer Killed in Iraq

Mr. Burek reviewed amendment LCPR05-316 provide a Police & Fire survivor benefit to the spouse but would put a limitation on that benefit considering benefits being received from other sources, and amendment LCPR05-317 which is a variation of the -316 amendment .

Ms. Mary Vanek, Executive Director, PERA, testified that the board considered making an exception to the one-year marriage requirement to allow the payment of a survivor benefit and the board opposes any exception to current policy for any death that occurs outside the line of duty for the police and fire fund. Ms. Vanek also noted that this is a longstanding provision that was intended to prevent deathbed marriages to take advantage of the pension system. The total required reserves for the payment of this benefit would be \$346,478 and a refund, which is available to the survivor, would be \$1,832.

Senator Betzold moved amendment LCPR05-317, amended page 2, line 18, inserting \$615,000 and on page 2, line 25, inserting \$100,000 and to add language to terminate the PERA benefit if the individual were to remarry.

Senator Betzold withdrew his motion on amendment LCPR05-317.

Representative Ozment moved amendment LCPR05-317, amended to include Sen. Betzold's amendments, be recommended to pass and be added to the first omnibus pension bill.

Agenda Items

S.F. 2272 (Betzold; Skoglund); H.F. xxx: Legislators Coordinated Retirement Plan; Modifying the Wage Deduction Requirement for Legislators Electing Social Security Coverage

Senator Betzold testified in support of the bill.

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

Omnibus Retirement Bill II (in the form of delete-all amendment LCPR05-307)

Senator Betzold moved to forward delete-all amendment LCPR05-307, as amended, without recommendation. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:28 a.m.

Lisa Diesslin, Administrative Secretary