



## Legislative Commission On Pensions and Retirement

Centennial Office Building  
658 Cedar Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
St. Paul, MN 55155

### SENATE MEMBERS

Sen. Nick A. Frentz, Chair  
Sen. Jeff R. Howe, Secretary  
Sen. Carla J. Nelson  
Sen. Sandra L. Pappas  
Sen. Jordan Rasmusson  
Sen. Judy Seeberger  
Sen. Bonnie S. Westlin

### HOUSE MEMBERS

Rep. Leon Lillie, Vice Chair  
Rep. Ethan Cha  
Rep. Josiah Hill  
Rep. Danny Nadeau  
Rep. Tim O'Driscoll  
Rep. Terry Stier  
Rep. Dan Wolgamott

### COMMISSION STAFF

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**April 8, 2025**

Room 1200, Minnesota Senate Building

## MINUTES

### Call to order:

Senator Frentz called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

### Commission Members Present:

Senators Frentz, Howe, Nelson, Pappas, Seeberger Rasmusson, and Westlin  
Representatives Cha, Hill, Lillie, Nadeau, O'Driscoll, Stier, and Wolgamott

## Agenda Items

### Approval of meeting minutes

Rep. O'Driscoll moved approval of the April 1, 2025, meeting minutes. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

### **SF2640 (Maye Quade); HF2367 (Nadeau): Implementing the labor agreement between the State and SEIU Healthcare Minnesota and Iowa for individual providers of direct support services; establishing the Minnesota Caregiver Retirement Fund Trust**

➤ Rep. Nadeau moved Amendment S2640-1A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Susan Lenczewski, Executive Director, Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement (LCPR), reviewed the amendment.

Rep. Nadeau presented and testified in support of his bill.

Jennifer Ziegler, Enterprise Director, Labor Relations, MMB, reviewed and testified in support of the bill.

Phillip Cryan, Executive Vice President, SEIU Healthcare Minnesota & Iowa, testified in support of the bill.

SF2640/HF2367 was laid over.

**SF2000 (Gustafson); HF1582 (Wolgamott): TRA; Providing an unreduced retirement annuity upon reaching age 60 with 30 years of service, modifying the early retirement reduction factors, increasing postretirement adjustments, increasing employer contribution rates, and appropriating money**

Senator Gustafson and Representative Wolgamott presented and testified in support of their bill.

- Rep. Hill moved Amendment S2000-1A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**
- Sen. Pappas moved Amendment S2000-2A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Aleena Wilson, Analyst, LCPR, reviewed the staff memo and Amendment S2000-2A.

Tim Maurer, Executive Director, TRA, testified that the TRA Board is evaluating the related cost, and that the Board generally supports benefit improvements if the benefits are fully funded.

Holly Dayton, Legislative Liaison, TRA, agreed with Mr. Maurer's testimony.

Phill Tencick, Executive Director/CIO, St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund Association, testified in support of funded benefit improvements.

Rodney Rowe, Secretary-Treasurer, Education Minnesota, testified in support of the bill.

Ryan Fiereck, President, Education Minnesota St. Francis, Co-Chair of Education Minnesota's Pensions Advisory Group, testified in support of the bill.

Ternesha Burroughs, President, Education Minnesota Osseo, testified in support of the bill.

Dr. Marcia Wyatt, Teacher, Minneapolis Public Schools, testified in support of the bill.

Heidi Simons, Teacher, Member of the Education Minnesota's Pensions Advisory Group, testified in support of the bill.

Lisa Olson, Union President, Elk River Education Association, testified in support of the bill.

Tim Moynihan, Vice-President, Retired Educators Association of Minnesota (REAM), testified in support of the bill and to advocate for adequate COLAs retired teachers, and to urge the Commission to form a work group to take on the task to formulate an actionable plan.

Lonnie Duberstein, Past President, REAM, testified in support of the bill and adequate COLAs.

Jason Savage, High School Principal, Pillager Schools ISD #116, testified in support of the bill.

Katie Dickerson, Art Educator, Hopkins, testified in support of the bill.

Vickie Penick, Minnesota Educator, testified in support of the bill.

Maggie Temple, Social Studies Teacher, testified in support of the bill.

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Jim Olson, Duluth Federation of Teachers, testified in support of the bill and provided a [handout](#).

Julie A. Seiler, Minnesota Public School Educator, Band Teacher, Spring Lake Park School District #16, testified in support of all three TRA bills.

Steve Clouse, CTE Instructor, Nashwauk-Keewatin High School ISD 319, testified in support of the bill.

Jody Anderson, Education Minnesota Retired, testified in support of the bill.

David Kubes testified in opposition to all three TRA bills.

Lora Larson, Math Teacher, testified in support of the bill.

Kara Bancroft, 5th Grade Teacher, St. Louis Park, testified in support of the bill and provided a [handout](#).

Stacy Bartlett, Minnesota teacher, Stillwater Area Schools, testified in support of the bill.

Letters in support of the bill were received from the following organizations:

- [Joint letter from](#): MN Assoc. of School Administrators, MN Assoc. of Secondary School Principals, MN Elementary School Principals' Assoc., and MN Rural Education Assoc.
- [Letter from East Central Minnesota Educational Cable Cooperative](#), submitted by Executive Director Marc Johnson.

[Submitted testimony](#) in support of the TRA bills was received from 147 individuals.

SF2000/HF1582, as amended, was laid over.

### **SF3239 (Abeler); HF2318 (Nadeau): TRA; Providing an unreduced retirement annuity upon reaching age 62 with 30 years of service, increasing employer contribution rates, and appropriating money**

Rep. Nadeau presented and testified in support of his bill.

Dr. Jeff Ridlehoover, Superintendent, Rockford Area School District 883, testified in support of the bill and provided a [presentation](#).

Paul Peterson, Special Education Teacher, International Falls ISD #361, testified in support of the bill.

Kate Lynne Snyder, Lobbyist, Education Minnesota, testified that while the previous bill is Education Minnesota's official recommendation, they are in support of the strongest career rule they can obtain.

Phill Tencick, Executive Director/CIO, St. Paul Teachers, testified in support of Amendment S3239-2A.

➤ Sen Pappas moved Amendment S3239-2A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

SF3239/HF2318, as amended, was laid over.

**SF2992 (Pratt); HF2329 (Nadeau): TRA; Lowering the age from 62 to 60 for the enhanced early retirement reduction**

➤ Rep. Nadeau moved Amendment S2992-1A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Kate Lynne Snyder, Lobbyist, Education Minnesota, testified that their goal is to obtain the strongest career rule they can.

Phill Tencick, Executive Director/CIO, St. Paul Teachers, testified in support of Amendment S2992-1A.

SF2992/HF2329, as amended, was laid over.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.