



May 8, 2007
Basement Hearing Room State Office Building

4th Meeting

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT

MINUTES

Call to order:

Representative Mary Murphy, 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, Phyllis Kahn, Michael V. Nelson, Steve Smith, and Paul Thissen
Senators Don Betzold, Dan Larson, Ann Lynch, Mary A. Olson, and Betsy L. Wergin

Agenda Items

H.F. 2128 (Murphy, M. by request); S.F. 1760 (Betzold): Adding PERA Staff to Post-Retirement Option Participation Provision

Mr. Edward Burek, Deputy Director, LCPR, reviewed the staff memo and policy issues raised by the bill, and discussed potential amendments.

Ms. Mary Vanek, Executive Director, PERA, testified in support of the bill.

Mr. David Bergstrom, Executive Director, MSRS, testified in support of Amendment H2128-2A, and that Amendment H2128-4A is not needed.

Sen. Betzold moved Amendment H2128-2a. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Sen. Betzold moved H.F. 2128/S.F. 1760, as amended, be recommended to pass and be included in the omnibus pension bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

H.F. 1941 (Kahn); S.F. 2036 (Larson): MPRA; Surviving Spouse Benefit Correction/Clarification

Rep. Kahn presented her bill.

Mr. Brian Rice, General Counsel, Minneapolis Police Relief Association, testified in support of the bill, in opposition to Amendment H1941-1A, and that Amendment H1941-2A is not necessary.

Mr. Larry Ward, Minneapolis Police Relief Association, testified in support of the bill, and indicated that the issue addressed by the bill represents an MPRA oversight.

Ms. Betsy Hodges, Chair of the Inter-Governmental Relations Committee of the City of Minneapolis, testified that the city council requests local approval but does not oppose the legislation at this time.

Sen. Betzold moved Amendment H1941-2A. **MOTION FAILED.**

Rep. Kahn moved H.F. 1941/S.F. 2036 be recommended to pass and be included in the omnibus pension bill. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

H.F. 2079 (Murphy, M.); S.F. 1841 (Pogemiller): Extend 2006 Early Retirement Incentive

Delete-all amendment H2079-18A was distributed for Commission consideration.

Mr. Lawrence Martin, Executive Director, Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement, reviewed the staff memo and policy issues raised by the bill and by the delete-all amendment. Mr. Martin informed members that MSRS has concerns relating to the Health Care Savings Account aspect of the proposal and the utilization of the MSRS-Unclassified as the source for translating the lump sum payment into an annuity and that the Minnesota School Boards Association has concerns about the language on page 2, lines 17-20 regarding whether the presiding officer of a local governing entity is the appropriate place to have the oversight.

