



March 19, 2013

Room 112 Capitol

LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION ON PENSIONS AND RETIREMENT

MINUTES

Call to order:

Senator Sandra Pappas, Chair of the Legislative Commission on Pensions and Retirement, called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

Commission Members Present:

Representatives Benson, Lesch, Morgan, M. Murphy, and O' Driscoll
Senators Goodwin, Hayden, Johnson, Pappas, Saxhaug, Rosen, and Thompson

Commission Members Absent:

Representatives Kahn and Nelson

Agenda Items

Approval of prior Commission meeting minutes.

Sen. Johnson moved approval of the March 5 and March 12, 2013, meeting minutes. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

S.F. 529 (Pappas); H.F. 650 (Nelson): TRA; Phase-in of actuarial equivalent early retirement reduction factors 2015-2019.

Laurie Hacking, Executive Director, TRA, testified in support of the bill and provided handout materials.

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

King Banaian, Center of the American Experiment, testified in opposition to the bill.

Jan Alswager, Education Minnesota, testified in support of the bill.

Louise Sundin, Committee of Thirteen, testified in support of the bill.

David Bergstrom, Executive Director, MSRS, testified in opposition to amendments S0529-1A and -2A.

Mary Most Vanek, Executive Director, PERA, testified in opposition to amendments S0529-1A and -2A.

Rep. Murphy moved amendments S1191-3A and S1191-4A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Rep. Murphy moved to reconsider amendments S1191-3A and S1191-4A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Rep. Murphy moved amendments S1191-3A and -4A be incorporated into Omnibus Pension Bill I. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Sen. Thompson moved amendment S0529-2A. There was no action on the amendment.

Sen. Pappas laid over S.F. 529/H.F. 650.

S.F. 1235 (Reinert); H.F. 1330 (Murphy, M.): DTRFA; Increasing employee and employer contributions; revising plan benefits.

J. Michael Stoffel, Executive Director, DTRFA, testified in support of the bill.

Sen. Johnson moved amendment S1235-7A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

David H. Johnson, attorney representing DTRFA, testified in support of the bill.

King Banaian, Center of the American Experiment, testified in opposition to the bill, and recommended merging the Duluth Teachers Retirement Fund Association into the Teachers Retirement Association.

Tom Threinen, former Duluth Public Schools principal, and Greg Repensky, Duluth Public Schools principal, testified in opposition to the bill, in support of providing equity to various retiree cohorts, and in support of creating a pension review/audit committee, and provided handout materials.

Sen. Pappas laid over S.F. 1235/H.F. 1330.

S.F. 1249 (Pappas); H.F. 1433 (Nelson): SPTRFA; Creating an additional state aid program; increasing employee and employer contributions; revising plan benefits.

Paul Doane, Executive Director, SPTRFA, testified in support of the bill and provided handout materials.

Rep. Lesch moved amendments S1249-12A and S1249-13A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

King Banaian, Center of the American Experiment, testified in opposition to the bill, and recommended merging the St. Paul Teachers Retirement Fund Association into the Teachers Retirement Association.

Brian Rice, attorney representing SPTRFA, testified in opposition to requiring that state aid be invested by the State Board of Investment and in opposition to merging SPTRFA into TRA.

Sen. Pappas laid over S.F. 1249/H.F. 1433.

Final consideration of 2013 Omnibus Retirement Bill I (delete-all amendment S0489-10A).

David H. Johnson, attorney representing the Minneapolis Firefighters Fraternal Organization, testified in support of amendment S0489-14A.

Mary Most Vanek, Executive Director, PERA, testified in support of amendment S0489-14A.

Brian Rice, attorney representing the Minneapolis Police Fraternal Organization, testified in support of amendment S0489-14A.

Sen. Saxhaug moved amendment S0489-14A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Sen. Saxhaug moved amendment S0489-11A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Rep. Murphy moved amendment S0489-13A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Rep. Lesch moved amendment S0489-12A. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Sen. Saxhaug moved delete-everything amendment S0489-10A, as amended, be adopted as the 2013 Omnibus Retirement Bill I. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Non-Agenda Items

Mr. Martin distributed Motion LCPR13-M1, to adopt actuarial assumption changes for the Hutchinson Fire Department Relief Association and for the New Ulm Fire Department Relief Association.

Rep. O'Driscoll moved motion LCPR13-M1. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Lisa Diesslin, Commission Assistant