



March 18, 2014

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 5:35 p.m.

Commission Members Present:

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

Agenda Items

S.F. 2680 (Eken); H.F. 1352 (Marquart): PERA-P&F; Disability benefit application deadline extension for a certain former Wadena County sheriff's deputy

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

Rep. Paul Marquart presented and testified in support of his bill.

Dave Shaw, the person affected by the bill, testified in support of the bill.

Shana Jones, Retirement Services Specialist, PERA, provided information on Mr. Shaw's situation.

Sen. Goodwin moved S.F. 2680/H.F. 1352 be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the Omnibus Pension Bill.

Mr. Martin reviewed amendment H1352-1A.

Sen. Goodwin withdrew her motion.

Rep. Morgan moved amendment H1352-1A. **MOTION PREVAILED**

Sen. Goodwin moved S.F. 2680/H.F. 1352, as amended, be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the Omnibus Pension Bill. **MOTION PREVAILED**

Approval of the minutes

Rep. Nelson moved approval of the March 11, 2014, meeting minutes. **MOTION PREVAILED.**

S.F. 2429 (Pappas); H.F. 2218 (Murphy, M.): VFRA's; State Auditor's Volunteer Fire Working Group recommendations

State Auditor Rebecca Otto presented and testified in support of the bill.

Rose Hennessey Allen, Pension Director, Office of the State Auditor, testified in support of the bill.

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

Sen. Goodwin offered amendment S1951-5A.

Nyle Zikmund, Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association, testified in support of the amendment.

The amendment was laid over.

Rep. Murphy moved S.F. 2429/H.F. 2218 be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the Omnibus Pension Bill. **MOTION PREVAILED**

S.F. 1951 (Pappas); H.F. 2427 (Atkins): Clarifying the eligibility of independent nonprofit firefighting corporations to receive state aid

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

Brian Rice, representing the Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association, testified in support of the bill.

Nyle Zikmund, Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association, testified in support of the bill and amendment S1951-5A.

Sen. Johnson moved amendment S1951-5A. **MOTION PREVAILED**

Sen. Johnson moved S.F. 1951/H.F. 2427, as amended, be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the Omnibus Pension Bill. **MOTION PREVAILED**

S.F. xxxx; H.F. 2597 (Murphy, M.): Police and fire state aid; Correction of drafting errors

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

Rep. Murphy moved S.F. xxxx/H.F. 2597 be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the Omnibus Pension Bill.

S.F. 1630 (Hayden); H.F. 1800 (Kahn): Local police and fire relief association former members pension benefits adjustment

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

Brian Rice, who previously represented some of the former relief associations, testified in support of the bill.

Mary Vanek, Executive Director, PERA, testified that the PERA board's position is that the proposal must be funded, and requested that PERA have until October 1 to work with Mr. Rice and Commission staff.

The bill was laid over.

S.F. 2532 (Hayden); H.F. 2554 (Kahn): PERA-P&F; Minneapolis police and fire consolidation law post-retirement adjustment clarification

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

Rep. Kahn moved S.F. 2532/H.F. 2554 be recommended to pass and be incorporated into the Omnibus Pension Bill. **MOTION PREVAILED**

S.F. 2308 (Johnson); H.F. 2604 (Murphy, M., by request): MSRS-Correctional; Modifications of coverage for Department of Human Services employees

Anne Barry, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Human Services, testified in support of the bill.

David Bergstrom, Executive Director, MSRS, testified that MSRS is comfortable with the bill.

The bill was laid over to the March 25, 2014, meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Lisa Diesslin, Commission Assistant