

Russell, Lindsey

From: Steelquist, Peter on behalf of Van De Wege, Sen. Kevin
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2022 4:24 PM
To: Conway, Sen. Steve; Stokesbary, Rep. Drew; Braun, Sen. John; Fitzgibbon, Rep. Joe; Ormsby, Rep. Timm; Robinson, Sen. June; Schoesler, Sen. Mark; Volz, Rep. Mike; Gutierrez, Aaron; Office State Actuary, WA
Subject: Public Safety Telecommunicators Pensions
Attachments: Public Safety Telecoms Pension Letter.pdf

Good afternoon Chair Conway and members of the Select Committee on Pension Policy,

Please see the attached letter regarding allowing public safety telecommunicators from the PERS 2 or 3 pension system into the PSERS pension system.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kevin Van De Wege
State Senator 24th Legislative District
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Washington State Senate

Senator Kevin Van De Wege

Senate Agriculture, Water,
Natural Resources & Parks Committee (Chair)
24th Legislative District

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July 14, 2022

Select Committee on Pension Policy
P.O. Box 40914
Olympia, WA 98504-0914

Chair Conway and Members of the Pension Policy Committee,

I am writing to request the Select Committee on Pension Policy consider moving public safety telecommunicators from the PERS 2 or 3 pension system into PSERS pension system, so they have the option to retire slightly earlier. This year SB 5555 was enacted, which provides a definition and certification for public safety telecommunicators. Public safety telecommunicators play a vital role as first responders, one that is often overlooked. They are front line safety for our law enforcement who work every day in a challenging environment. They provide critical lifesaving information to many who are experiencing sickness and illness which makes for a stressful work environment. I believe this change to the pension is consistent with the important public safety role these individuals play.

Please let me know if you have questions or need more information.

Best,

Senator Kevin Van De Wege
24th Legislative District