From: Matt Fellman
To: Rep. Laddie Shaw
Subject: House Bill 22
Date: Monday, March 6, 2023 9:15:39 AM

Representative Laddie Shaw

I'm writing to you today to provide a testimony for HB 22 and its importance. As someone who has worked as an Alaskan firefighter over the last several years, I have become very familiar and therefore concerned regarding my future. Alaska is where I was born, raised, and a place that I love to call home. However, even though Alaska is dear to my heart I would be lying if I said that I haven't actively been searching and putting applications into departments within the lower 48 to work for the extended future. The fact is that Alaska's public safety retirement in comparison to much of America's Northwest is essentially non-existent. Although I hate thinking about it, there will come a day that my body, mind, and ability to perform as a firefighter/paramedic will come to an end sooner than my ability to retire will. The statistics speak for themselves as public safety employees are abandoning Alaska's retirement to greener pastures and I have seen this firsthand during my career in Alaska. Unless something is changed in the near future, I will be forced to look out for my best interest and hop on that same wagon out of town. I hope that you will consider placing your support into the passing of HB22 and make an enormous step in giving back to the public safety employees of Alaska.

Thank you,

Matt Fellman- Anchorage Resident
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