

From: [Mark Wells](#)
To: [Rep. Neal Foster](#); [Rep. Tammie Wilson](#); [Rep. Jennifer Johnston](#); [Rep. Daniel Ortiz](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Bart LeBon](#); [Rep. Cathy Tilton](#); [Rep. Kelly Merrick](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#); [Rep. Ben Carpenter](#); [Rep. Chuck Kopp](#)
Subject: House Bill 79
Date: Sunday, May 5, 2019 8:21:39 AM

Ladies and Gentlemen,

My name is Mark Wells. I have been an Anchorage Police Officer for a little over 24 years now. I am writing this letter to you in support of HB 79.

The current PERS IV is not adequate retirement system if we want to be able to recruit and keep high quality applicants. I have been assisting the training staff with reality based training scenarios over the past several years. It appears to me that the quality of applicants has decreased slightly over those years. I have seen extremely good officers leave for other law enforcement position outside of Alaska after a few years. I do not know what it cost to train these men and women but I do know that the City and State are not getting their money's worth out of them.

I have lived in Alaska for 55 of my 57 years and do not plan on ever leaving. I know that a retirement system similar to PERS III is more expensive to the State and I am willing to accept that. I have nothing to gain from HB 79 except hiring and retaining better men and women as law enforcement officers across the State to protect myself, my family, and my property as I move into retirement and my golden years.

I would appreciate your support on this bill.

Thank You,
Mark Wells