

From: [John Adams](#)
To: [Rep. Chuck Kopp](#)
Subject: HB 79
Date: Monday, May 6, 2019 9:44:11 PM

Representative Kopp,

My name is John Adams and I am a firefighter with Capital City Fire/ Rescue in Juneau. I have been a firefighter since May 1, 2006 and have had the privilege of serving the people of my hometown since. I was Alaska raised and am raising two wonderful girls and married to a great wife and lifelong Juneauite.

I was the last person from my fire department to earn a defined benefit pension and have seen the negative consequences of switching to a defined contribution plan. We (Alaskans) have trained countless public servants such as firefighters, EMT's and law enforcement officers and have been unable to retain their service due to more competitive job markets that include a retirement after completing 20 plus years of helping others at their greatest time of need.

My community has lost some amazing firefighters and law enforcement officers to Washington, Oregon and Idaho and their defined contribution has left with them. Alaska has trained some of the finest public servants and has become a training facility for other states. I have heard that the cost of training a police officer is north of 125k for the first year and honestly believe that the same is true for paramedics and firefighters.

Please continue to help us serve the great people of Alaska and keep up the right fight of passing HB 79.

Thank you for your time, effort and understanding.

Firefighter John D. Adams,
Juneau, Alaska