

**From:** [paul badalich](#)  
**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:** HB 79  
**Date:** Monday, May 6, 2019 8:51:10 AM

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Hello,

Please consider continuing to move HB 79 through the legislative process. I'm a 19+ year Captain with the Anchorage Fire Department, and can attest that the current tier IV plan is not sufficient to retain employees. We repeatedly have members who become vested after 5 years, and then move on to a lower 48 fire department that has a reasonable retirement package. This results both in a dearth of experience in a job that requires just that as well as a higher cost to hire and train new members. The current tier IV system also makes recruiting new members difficult. My understanding is that these issues are not just our local problem but state wide for police/fire.

I understand as a taxpayer that offering a competitive retirement in the State of Alaska bears an added cost, however ,the current plan is insufficient. HB 79 at least deserves to be moved forward and it's merits and costs debated before the legislative body as a whole.

Thank you for your time,

Paul Badalich

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