

From: [Brain Fuchs](#)
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](#)
Cc: [Jeremy Conkling](#)
Subject: HB79
Date: Sunday, May 5, 2019 8:01:15 PM

Leaders,

My name is Brian Fuchs and I have been a police officer in Anchorage for over eleven years and also serve in the Alaska National Guard as the Provost Marshal. I am writing you in support of HB79. I understand you might have read many emails telling you how vital this bill is for the future safety of our state. Please add my name to that list.

We are privileged to call this amazing state our home, and I am honored to defend it and its amazing people. I have had the privilege to talk with highly qualified men and women in my profession who have discussed a desire to move north and start a new law enforcement career and adventure in Alaska. Unfortunately, the lack of a defined composition retirement plan is just not worth the risk for them to commit. This is real, I have experienced it with people who have reached out to myself or my wife for information on working within the Anchorage Police Department. After a long conversation on how we love Alaska and how wonderful it is to live and work here the conversation about working as a police officer without a pension simply ends the dialogue. They just won't do it.

Last week I was having a conversation with an officer before a court case we were involved in who has less than two years with APD. This officer is Intelligent, hardworking, and has a passion for the job. A future leader in our organization. He has already applied to a different agency outside Alaska. His concern, you guessed it, his retirement. What a loss to the state this will be if he is accepted and leaves. I want him and all the others who have the same plan to stay with our team. I want us to grow strong as a department and build depth within our ranks. But I understand why he is leaving, and I don't blame him. My wife and I have had this same conversation on many occasions. We choose to stay because we believe our government leaders will make the right decision and bring back a defined benefit system. We have been under this belief since 2007.

I understand you all are burdened with the great responsibility to bring Alaska back on course financially. And during a time where the money is tight and everyone has an opinion, I can only imagine how exhausting this task must be. But this is why you were elected. To make the tough decisions for not just one person, one town, or one city but an entire state. We need this bill to recruit and retain quality officers so your police forces across the state can continue to be the best, and most professional law enforcement organizations in the country. Please choose the safety of our families, or state. Please choose to push HB79.

Respectfully,

Officer Brian Fuchs
Proud member of the Anchorage Police Department
Proud member of the Alaska National Guard

