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**Sent:** Wednesday, May 1, 2019 9:23 PM

**To:** Rep. Neal Foster <Rep.Neal.Foster@akleg.gov>; Rep. Tammie Wilson <Rep.Tammie.Wilson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Jennifer Johnston <Rep.Jennifer.Johnston@akleg.gov>; Rep. Daniel Ortiz <Rep.Daniel.Ortiz@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Bart LeBon <Rep.Bart.Lebon@akleg.gov>; Rep. Cathy Tilton <Rep.Cathy.Tilton@akleg.gov>; Rep. Kelly Merrick <Rep.Kelly.Merrick@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>; Rep. Ben Carpenter <Rep.Ben.Carpenter@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chuck Kopp <Rep.Chuck.Kopp@akleg.gov>

**Cc:** Nick Glorioso <nickglorioso@gci.net>

**Subject:** HB 79

Dear Representatives,

My name is Nick Glorioso and I am a Firefighter for the Anchorage Fire Department. I hired on here in 2000 and am lucky to have a defined benefit to look forward to in my retirement. Unfortunately so many of my coworkers are not so lucky. They do not have a defined benefit of any kind including social security or SBS. In fact they are some of the very few employees that are covered under PERS that do not have the protection that a defined benefit, social security or SBS provide. Public Safety is constantly touted as a primary focus of the Alaskan lawmakers however the public safety officers in Alaska have been left out in the cold. I appreciate the work that has pushed HB79 this far it is so important to finish the job and get this fixed.

My brother Robert Glorioso is a Firefighter/Paramedic in Bellingham, Washington. He Left the Anchorage Fire Department seeking a defined benefit retirement and he found it. Tristan Raber, Ed Johnson, Cody Carver, Hunter Bomar and Richard Bradley are just a few of my coworkers that have been fully trained as firefighters here at the Anchorage Fire Department and have left specifically because the state retirement system leaves them with no security in retirement. I realize that there is a cost to this fix however the cost to doing nothing far outweighs the cost of fixing the system. Recruitment and retention is a real problem for all public safety officers all over Alaska and the new model of getting hired here, getting trained and certified here, and then leaving here to places with a DB retirement system has become the norm. The cost of putting hundreds of thousands of dollars into a single employee just to have them leave is bad business.

Please continue to support HB79 and push it thorough to the finish line.

Nick Glorioso

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