

From: [Chris Vierra](#)
To: [Rep. Chuck Kopp](#)
Cc: [Ken Truitt](#)
Subject: Support for House Bill 79
Date: Wednesday, April 17, 2019 5:49:53 PM

Dear Representative Kopp,

I am writing in support of amending the Alaska Public Employee Retirement System. I am in support of a defined pension retirement package. I have been a Police Officer in the City of Anchorage for 5 years. I am currently an FTO, EVOC instructor, and a member of the Crime Scene Team. Working here in the beautiful State of Alaska has many benefits for raising a family. However I feel our medical and retirement benefits offered to Law Enforcement and Fire are lacking. There has always been a concern with me and my family staying in Alaska and that is our future at retirement. My family and I would love to know we have secure future here in Alaska.

We are currently offered a 401K savings type plan. In comparison to other departments in other states, we cannot compete when it comes to retirement packages. There is a common theme I hear when I find out we are losing an Officer to another department in the lower 48, and that is there is no benefit to stay in Alaska and they are going to a department with a pension and better benefits. We are losing good and well trained Officers to other departments, which is not good for the citizens we serve as well as for our department.

I thank you for your time in reviewing this and your support for Law Enforcement.

Respectfully,

Officer Chris Vierra
Anchorage Police Department