

HB 30

Konrad Jackson

From: Rep. Kurt Olson
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2009 11:31 PM
To: Konrad Jackson
Subject: FW:

Follow Up Flag: Follow Up
Flag Status: Red

From: Friedman_Jeff [Friedman_Jeff@asdk12.org]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2009 1:55 PM
To: Rep. Kurt Olson; Rep. Mark Neuman; Rep. Mike Chenault; Rep. John Coghill; Rep. Bob Lynn; Rep. Bob Buch; Rep. Lindsey Holmes
Cc: Rep. Mike Hawker; Comeau_Carol; Siegfried_Robin
Subject:

Dear Chair Olson and Members of the Labor and Commerce Committee

I am writing to urge your support for HB 30 which is scheduled to be heard by the House Labor & Commerce Committee Wednesday.

The Anchorage School Board supports a return to a defined benefit plan for public employees. I believe the current defined contribution plan makes it more difficult for us to recruit employees. Anchorage continues to need to make a major effort to recruit teachers and other qualified employees to fill positions within the Anchorage School District. We will not lower our standards to accept less than well qualified employees, but we can not find enough people in Alaska to fill all of our positions.

Even more serious than the recruitment issue is the question of retaining our best employees. These employees are the ones most able to move to another state to find comparable employment. Many will choose to do that in order to obtain the security of a defined benefit pension. Those in TRS have a particularly strong incentive to do so since they do not qualify for social security benefits. Public employers spend a lot of money recruiting and training employees. It would be a shame to have the best employees take that training to another state, but that is exactly what they are encouraged to do under a defined contribution plan.

Alaska originally moved to a defined contribution plan under a belief that it would save money and help ease the deficit in the pension fund trust balance. We have since learned that those assumptions were incorrect. There is no longer a financial justification for not returning to the defined benefit plan. Returning to a defined benefit plan will put us on a more equal basis with other states for both recruitment and retention. Please support HB 30.

Jeff Friedman
Anchorage School Board
1534 D Street
Anchorage, AK 99501
907-742-4699 (Home)

Konrad Jackson

From: EightTrack Pete [eighttrackpete@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2009 8:46 AM
To: Rep. Kurt Olson
Subject: Constituent

March 15, 2009

Representative Olson,

I understand there is a hearing scheduled for HB 30 at 3:15 pm on Wednesday, March 18th. I urge you to support and pass HB 30 out of your committee. As an Alaska, born and raised, I urge you to support this repeal to the DC plan and reinstate a pension and health insurance system for new employees that will ensure an adequate and predictable retirement for this Tier IV State employee.

Peter H. Jensen
US Army Sergeant Major, Retired
18571 Jude Island Circle
Eagle River, Alaska 99577
Home 907-360-1054

Security Officer I
Department of Military Veteran's Affairs
Building 49000, Camp Denali
Fort Richardson, Alaska
Work 907-428-6789

"A National Guardsman is a civilian some of the time, a soldier part of the time, and a patriot all of the time."

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3/16/2009

Konrad Jackson

From: Gary Miller [gmiller_juneauak@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2009 7:27 PM
To: Rep. Kurt Olson; Rep. John Coghill; Rep. Mark Neuman; Rep. Mike Chenault; Rep. Bob Lynn; Rep. Bob Buch; Rep. Lindsey Holmes
Subject: HB30

When the legislature created the defined contribution retirement tiers, it did not have all of the data that it needed. Now the current actuary states that the new tiers are not saving the State of Alaska any money. PERS tier III and TRS tier II had already corrected projected short falls to the trust fund.

There were two other problems. First, the previous actuary made gross mistakes and the State of Alaska is now suing for over \$1 Billion. The other problem was the way that the Department of Administration managed the billings to employers. Management should be transferred to the professionals in the Alaska Retirement Management Board, but that is another issue.

Worst of all, new employees coming into the defined contribution tiers won't have secure and safe retirements. They are being punished, if you will, for others mistakes. You can remedy this by passing HB30. Please pass HB30.

Gary Miller
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Konrad Jackson

From: Danielle Brow [daniellejohnson769@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2009 3:39 PM
To: Rep. Kurt Olson
Cc: Danielle Brow
Subject: Public Opinion Message on HB30

Dear legislator,

State employees deserve the security of a guaranteed pension and health insurance in retirement.

The Tier IV retirement plan does not ensure an adequate and predictable retirement.

State services suffer when inadequate benefits cause quality employees to seek work elsewhere.

Please SUPPORT SB 23, HB 30 and HB 54.

Thank you!!

Danielle Brow

12100 Lucille Lane

Anchorage, AK 99515

This is an email message from "Danielle Brow" <daniellejohnson769@hotmail.com>. Opinions expressed belong to the sender alone.

Konrad Jackson

From: Carl H. Koch [micp1440@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2009 4:47 PM
To: Rep. Kurt Olson
Cc: Carl H. Koch
Subject: Public Opinion Message on HB30

I am a new state employee and I need your support for HB 30. Please move HB 30 out of your committee so that new state employees can have a retirement and health benefit package that will encourage people like me to finish a career with the state of Alaska! Good people will leave without adequate retirement benefits. End the Tier IV system!

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Carl H. Koch

6740 Gray Street

Juneau, AK 99801

This is an email message from "Carl H. Koch" <micp1440@yahoo.com>.
Opinions expressed belong to the sender alone.