

From: Jeremy Jones <monkeymedic@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, April 29, 2019 7:30 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>

Subject: HB79

House Finance Committee:

My name is Jeremy Jones, and I reside in Anchorage. I am writing today to voice my support for HB79. I urge you all to take action on this bill to move it forward through the legislative process.

I am a public safety worker under the Tier 3 retirement system. I left my job in public safety in Nevada nearly 18 years ago to pursue the same work here in Alaska. If I were faced with that same decision today, I don't think I could logically make that choice to bring the experience I had gained in Nevada here to benefit the people of Anchorage due to the current Tier IV system. I share this personal testimony with you to highlight the difficulties that Alaska is facing with the recruitment and retention of trained public safety personnel.

Our great state is being very short sighted in continuing to offer the current Tier IV retirement for public safety. We are training up public safety personnel only to have them take a "lateral" position out of state in places that offer a better type of retirement. I believe that HB79 would be worth the small cost in the long run in order to retain the people we are training up and giving valuable experience to.

Thank you for hearing my concerns.

Jeremy Jones
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