

From: D Robertson <lesgume13@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, May 1, 2019 8:51 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: Support for HB79

Members of the House Finance Committee:

Thank you for your service to Alaska and the fine people that call it their home. I am writing to urge you to continue your service and support of the next generation of State employees by addressing Tier IV through HB79.

In 2001 i began my career as a Firefighter in the Anchorage Fire Department. 18 years later, I am still a proud resident of the state and look forward to what lies in the future. While retirement is a distant concept, it was a key factor in my career choice and the decision to stay in Alaska. I feel that the current state of Tier IV actually dissuades many people from making the decision that I made: to stay in the state, raise a family and support my community.

In addition to this, I have seen the state pour valuable time and resources into an employee, only to have them leave Alaska seeking employment elsewhere. To put it plainly: there is zero return in that investment.

Consider the recruitment woes across many departments: The Troopers, Anchorage Fire and many other public service arenas. Tier IV directly plays a part in this.

It is sure that HB79 has the support of many current and future employees. I hope that it continues to move forward with your collective support.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

David Robertson
Fire Captain
Anchorage Fire Department