

HB

83

<TARGET><BILL>HB 83</BILL><SUBJECT>HB
83</SUBJECT><COMM>HSTA30</COMM></TARGET>



Representative Sam Kito

Alaska State Legislature

House District 33

Downtown Juneau

Douglas
Haines
Klukwan
Skagway
Gustavus

Excursion Inlet

Chair

House Labor & Commerce

Chair

Legislative Council

Member

House Health &
Social Services

Member

House Rules

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Sponsor Statement

House Bill 83

“An Act relating to new defined benefit tiers in the public employees' retirement system and the teachers' retirement system; providing certain employees an opportunity to choose between the defined benefit and defined contribution plans of the public employees' retirement system and the teachers' retirement system; and providing for an effective date.”

House Bill 83 lets teachers, Troopers, firefighters and other public employees choose one of two state retirement systems: today's defined contribution retirement account, or earning a new defined benefit pension. And it saves the state money in the process.

A defined benefit pension takes time to earn, but rewards public service by paying a guaranteed monthly benefit and, for long-term employees, health insurance. An individual defined contribution account is portable from one employer to another, and flexible in how it can be used, but makes no guarantees.

HB 83 lets newly hired public servants in Alaska choose the one that fits best. HB 83 creates a new more stable, more predictable defined benefit pension tier for teachers and public employees. A few years ago, Alaska beefed up oversight of the pension system to head off any new surprises. HB 83 keeps these smart reforms, making Alaska pensions stronger than ever.

And because the defined benefit pensions for new employees include sharing the risk of rising health costs, they will never cost employers more than the defined contribution system, saving money for schools, cities, and the State of Alaska. Fiscal notes prepared for prior versions of this bill show it save the state roughly \$70 million in the first 10 years.

Alaska teachers and public employees don't earn the private sector's defined benefit of Social Security, and many even lose Social Security benefits they earned in past jobs. So for most, a defined benefit pension makes sense. Other employees will choose individual defined contribution accounts because they prefer flexibility, portability, and control, or because their plans do not include long-term service in the public sector. HB 83 lets them choose an individual account.

The teachers who educate our children, the police and firefighters who protect our families, and the public employees who serve our state and cities will be able to choose the benefit that best fits their service.

Thank you for your support of House Bill 83.



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Sectional Analysis

House Bill 83

“An Act relating to new defined benefit tiers in the public employees' retirement system and the teachers' retirement system; providing certain employees an opportunity to choose between the defined benefit and defined contribution plans of the public employees' retirement system and the teachers' retirement system; and providing for an effective date.”

Sections 1 and 2 Clarify that the Teachers Retirement System (TRS) defined benefit (DB) statutes apply only to employees who participate in the DB plan and did not convert to defined contribution (DC). No employee can participate in both the DB and DC plans. Sec. 1 also puts all TRS employers on an equal footing by requiring them to offer new employees the choice between DB and DC systems.

Sections 3 and 4 Set employee contributions for the new DB tier at eight percent of pay, while leaving prior tier employees' contributions unchanged.

Sections 5 and 6 Require a person receiving disability benefits under the DB tiers to seek work and receive a medical examination. Sets limits on the frequency of the exams.

Section 7 Closes the Tier II DB health plan to new hires and those DC members who choose to convert to the new TRS DB tier.

Section 8 Establishes the eligibility standard for retiree medical benefits in the new TRS DB tier. In the new DB tier, a member with 25 years of service may receive medical benefits partially paid by the system at any age. A member without 25 years must have at least eight years of service and be eligible for Medicare. Disabled members also get system-paid medical benefits.

A TRS DB retiree who does not meet those qualifications can buy health care coverage from the system, but must pay the full cost of premiums.

Establishes a premium share schedule for retirees to pay a portion of their health insurance and requires actuarial adjustments to keep the pre-funding rate of the new DB tier no higher than the cost of the DC plan.

Sets vesting rules for the premium share percentages so that the schedule can change during an employee's working life, but is fixed at the date of retirement.

Section 9 Clarifies that the TRS DC statutes apply only to employees who participate in the DC plan and did not convert to DB. No employees can participate in both the DB and DC plans.

Section 10 Puts all TRS employers on an equal footing by requiring them to offer new employees the choice between DB and DC.

Section 11 Gives a newly hired teacher the choice between DB and DC systems. This is a one-time irrevocable choice. Sets timeframes and rules for the process.

Section 12 Clarifies that the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS) DB statutes apply only to employees who participate in the DB plan and did not convert to DC. No employee can participate in both the DB and DC plans. This section also puts all PERS employers on an equal footing by requiring them to offer new employees the choice between DB and DC systems.

Section 13 Sets the same minimum wage threshold for elected officials in the new DB tier as the 2004 reforms implemented for prior tiers.

Sections 14 and 15 Set employee contributions for the new PERS DB tier at eight percent of pay, while leaving prior tier employees' contributions unchanged.

Sections 16 and 17 Require a person receiving disability benefits under the PERS DB tiers to seek work and receive a medical examination. Sets limits on the frequency of the exams.

Section 18 Establishes an eligibility standard for retiree medical benefits in the new PERS DB tier. In the new DB tier, a peace officer or firefighter with 25 years of service may receive medical benefits partially paid by the system at any age. A peace officer or firefighter who does not have 25 years of service must be eligible for Medicare and have at least 10 years. Other PERS employees require 30 years of service to get medical benefits partially paid by the system unless they are Medicare eligible, in which case they require a minimum of 10 years. Disabled members also get system-paid medical benefits.

A PERS DB retiree who does not meet those qualifications can buy health care coverage from the system, but must pay the full cost of premiums.

Establishes a premium share schedule for retirees to pay a portion of their health insurance and requires actuarial adjustments to keep the pre-funding rate of the new DB tier no higher than the cost of the DC plan.

Sets vesting rules for the premium share percentages so that the schedule can change during an employee's working life, but is fixed at the date of retirement.

Sections 19 and 20 Put all PERS employers on an equal footing by allowing employers that return to PERS after terminating participation to hire employees the same way other PERS employers do, and allows employees to earn service credits in the appropriate tier when working for those employers.

Section 21 Clarifies that the PERS DC statutes apply only to employees who participate in the DC plan and did not convert to DB. No employees can participate in both the DB and DC plans.

Section 22 Puts all PERS employers on an equal footing by requiring them to offer new employees the choice between DB and DC systems.

Section 23 Gives a newly hired public employee the choice between DB and DC systems. This is a one-time irrevocable choice. Sets timeframes and rules for the process.

Section 24 Repeals sections that let non-vested employees convert from DB to DC and required employers to match the funds transferred dollar for dollar. Repeals sections related to political subdivisions that participate only in the DC plan. Repeals a requirement that DB employees who refunded contributions from the system and return to work after July 1, 2010 participate only in the DC plan. (Such employees will thus be treated as new hires.)

Section 25 Gives employees hired into the TRS and PERS DC plans who have not refunded out of those plans a 90-day period from the effective date of the bill to irrevocably convert into the new DB tier. Contributions move from the DC plan to the DB plan trust if they make the switch.

Section 26 Sets the procedure for the conversion election in Sec. 25 and allows the administrator to adopt regulations related to the conversion. The choice to convert is irrevocable, and certain information must be provided to the employee. An employee who transfers receives credited service in the defined benefit plan equal to the value of the employee's DC account. If that amount is insufficient to 'buy' the employee's actual service time, the employee may create an indebtedness to purchase the difference. If the employee's individual account has an excess, the difference is transferred into the Supplemental Benefits System or a comparable account, in keeping with federal tax law.

Section 27 Allows the Commissioner of Administration to adopt regulations to implement and make specific the bill's provisions.

Section 28 Is an immediate effective date for sections 26 and 27 of the bill.

Section 29 Makes the bill effective January 1, 2019, except as provided in Sec. 28.

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 83(L&C)
IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Offered:
Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES KITO, Tarr, Tuck, Parish, LeDoux

A BILL
FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to new defined benefit tiers in the public employees' retirement system**
2 **and the teachers' retirement system; providing certain employees an opportunity to**
3 **choose between the defined benefit and defined contribution plans of the public**
4 **employees' retirement system and the teachers' retirement system; and providing for an**
5 **effective date."**

6 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

7 *** Section 1.** AS 14.25.009 is repealed and reenacted to read:

8 **Sec. 14.25.009. Applicability of AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220.** (a) The provisions
9 of AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220 apply to teachers who are eligible to be members of the
10 teachers' retirement system under AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220 and are not members of
11 the defined contribution retirement plan under AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590.

12 (b) An employer that participates in the plan shall also participate in the
13 defined contribution retirement plan under AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590.

1 * Sec. 2. AS 14.25.040(a) is amended to read:

2 (a) Unless a teacher or member participates in a university retirement program
3 under AS 14.40.661 - 14.40.799 or has elected under AS 14.25.330 or former
4 AS 14.25.540 to participate in the plan established in AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590, a
5 teacher or member contracting for service with a participating employer is subject to
6 AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220.

7 * Sec. 3. AS 14.25.050(a) is amended to read:

8 (a) Except as provided in (c) and (e) of this section, beginning January 1,
9 1991, each member shall contribute to the plan an amount equal to 8.65 percent of the
10 member's base salary accrued from July 1 to the following June 30. [THE
11 EMPLOYER SHALL DEDUCT THE CONTRIBUTION FROM THE MEMBER'S
12 SALARY AT THE END OF EACH PAYROLL PERIOD, AND THE
13 CONTRIBUTION SHALL BE CREDITED BY THE PLAN TO THE MEMBER
14 CONTRIBUTION ACCOUNT. THE CONTRIBUTIONS SHALL BE DEDUCTED
15 FROM EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION BEFORE THE COMPUTATION OF
16 APPLICABLE FEDERAL TAXES AND SHALL BE TREATED AS EMPLOYER
17 CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER 26 U.S.C. 414(h)(2). A MEMBER MAY NOT HAVE
18 THE OPTION OF MAKING THE PAYROLL DEDUCTION DIRECTLY IN CASH
19 INSTEAD OF HAVING THE CONTRIBUTION PICKED UP BY THE
20 EMPLOYER.]

21 * Sec. 4. AS 14.25.050 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

22 (e) Except as provided in (a) and (c) of this section, a member who first
23 participates in the plan after June 30, 2006, shall contribute to the plan an amount
24 equal to eight percent of the employee's base salary accrued from July 1 to the
25 following June 30.

26 (f) The employer shall deduct the contributions under (a) and (e) of this
27 section from the member's salary at the end of each payroll period, and the
28 contributions shall be credited by the plan to the member contribution account. The
29 contributions shall be deducted from employee compensation before the computation
30 of applicable federal taxes and shall be treated as employer contributions under 26
31 U.S.C. 414(h)(2). A member may not have the option of making the payroll deduction

1 directly in cash instead of having the contribution picked up by the employer.

2 * Sec. 5. AS 14.25.130(c) is amended to read:

3 (c) Once each year during the first five years following appointment to
4 disability under this section, and once every three-year period thereafter, the
5 administrator may require a disabled member who first became a member before
6 July 1, 2006, and who has not attained eligibility for normal retirement to undergo a
7 medical or mental examination by a competent physician. The administrator shall
8 suspend any disability benefit for a disabled member who refuses to undergo a
9 physical or mental examination when requested under this section.

10 * Sec. 6. AS 14.25.130 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

11 (g) A person who first becomes a member after June 30, 2006, and who is
12 receiving a benefit under this section shall undergo a medical examination as often as
13 the administrator considers advisable, but not more frequently than once each year.
14 The administrator shall determine the place of the examination and engage the
15 physician or physicians. If the administrator determines that the examination indicates
16 that the disabled member is no longer incapacitated because of a total and apparently
17 permanent occupational disability, the administrator may not issue further disability
18 benefits to the member.

19 (h) A person who first becomes a member after June 30, 2006, and who is
20 appointed to disability benefits shall apply to the division of vocational rehabilitation
21 in the Department of Labor and Workforce Development within 30 days after the date
22 disability benefits commence. The member shall be enrolled in a rehabilitation
23 program if the member meets the eligibility requirements of the division of vocational
24 rehabilitation. Unless the member demonstrates cause, benefits shall terminate at the
25 end of the first month in which a disabled member

26 (1) fails to report to the division of vocational rehabilitation;

27 (2) is certified by the division of vocational rehabilitation as failing to
28 cooperate in a vocational rehabilitation program;

29 (3) fails to interview for a job; or

30 (4) fails to accept a position offered.

31 * Sec. 7. AS 14.25.168(d) is amended to read:

1 (d) A benefit recipient who first became a member before July 1, 2006, or
 2 the benefit recipient's surviving spouse may elect major medical insurance coverage
 3 in accordance with regulations and under the following conditions:

4 (1) a benefit recipient [PERSON] who has less than 25 years of
 5 membership service and who is younger than 60 years of age must pay an amount
 6 equal to the full monthly group premium for retiree major medical insurance coverage;

7 (2) a disabled member, a disabled member who is appointed to normal
 8 retirement, a person 60 years of age or older, or a person who has at least 25 years of
 9 membership service is not required to make premium payments.

10 * Sec. 8. AS 14.25.168 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

11 (g) A benefit recipient, or the surviving spouse of a benefit recipient, who first
 12 becomes a member after June 30, 2006, may elect major medical insurance coverage
 13 in accordance with regulations and under the following conditions:

14 (1) if the participating member or surviving spouse is not eligible for
 15 Medicare, the cost of a monthly premium for retiree major medical insurance coverage
 16 elected under this section is equal to the full monthly group premium for retiree major
 17 medical insurance coverage;

18 (2) if the participating member or surviving spouse is eligible for
 19 Medicare, the cost of a monthly premium for retiree major medical insurance coverage
 20 is a percentage of the full monthly group premium, as follows:

21 (A) 30 percent if the member had 10 or more, but less than 15,
 22 years of service;

23 (B) 25 percent if the member had 15 or more, but less than 20,
 24 years of service;

25 (C) 20 percent if the member had 20 or more, but less than 25,
 26 years of service;

27 (3) the cost of a monthly premium paid by the member or the
 28 member's surviving spouse for retiree major medical insurance coverage is

29 (A) 15 percent of the full monthly group premium if the
 30 participating member has 25 or more, but less than 30, years of service;

31 (B) 10 percent of the full monthly group premium if the

1 participating member has 30 or more years of service;

2 (4) a disabled member or a disabled member who is appointed to
3 normal retirement is not required to make premium payments.

4 (h) On or after July 1, 2021, and every five years thereafter, the administrator
5 shall adjust the percentages under (g)(2) and (3) of this section as needed to maintain,
6 but not to exceed, over the succeeding five years, an employer normal cost rate for the
7 members and survivors who first become members after June 30, 2006, that does not
8 exceed the combined total of the rates under AS 14.25.350(a), (b), (d), and (e) minus
9 the employer normal cost rate attributable to the members who first become members
10 after June 30, 2006, for benefits under AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.167. An adjustment made
11 under this subsection shall remain in effect for five years. In making an adjustment
12 under this subsection, the administrator shall maintain the five percent differences
13 between the percentages in (g)(2)(A), (B), and (C) of this section and the five percent
14 differences between the percentages in (g)(3)(A) and (B) of this section.

15 (i) When a member is appointed to retirement, the member obtains a vested
16 right to the applicable percentage under (g)(2) or (3) of this section, as adjusted under
17 (h) of this section, that is in effect when the member is appointed to retirement. A
18 member does not obtain a vested right to a percentage under (g)(2) or (3) of this
19 section, as adjusted under (h) of this section, before the member is appointed to
20 retirement.

21 * Sec. 9. AS 14.25.310 is amended to read:

22 Sec. 14.25.310. Applicability of AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590. The provisions of
23 AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590 apply only to

24 (1) teachers who first become members on or after July 1, 2006, and
25 before the effective date of this section who do not transfer to a defined benefit
26 retirement plan under AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220 or AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680;

27 (2) teachers described in AS 14.25.330 who elect under that section
28 to become [TO MEMBERS WHO ARE EMPLOYED BY EMPLOYERS THAT DO
29 NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE DEFINED BENEFIT RETIREMENT PLAN
30 ESTABLISHED UNDER AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220, TO FORMER MEMBERS
31 UNDER AS 14.25.220, OR TO] members; and

1 (3) teachers who transferred [TRANSFER] into the defined
2 contribution retirement plan under former AS 14.25.540.

3 * **Sec. 10.** AS 14.25.310 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

4 (b) An employer that participates in the plan shall also participate in the
5 defined benefit retirement plan under AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220.

6 * **Sec. 11.** AS 14.25.330 is repealed and reenacted to read:

7 **Sec. 14.25.330. Retirement plan election option.** (a) A teacher who is first
8 hired on or after the effective date of this section may make a one-time election to
9 participate in the defined contribution retirement plan under AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590
10 retroactive to the date of hire and may transfer to that plan employee contributions, if
11 any, and employer contributions, if any, that have been made to the defined benefit
12 retirement plan under AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220. Before employer contributions are
13 transferred under this subsection, the administrator shall recalculate them under
14 AS 14.25.070.

15 (b) The election to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan
16 under (a) of this section must be made within 90 days after the date of hire and be
17 made in writing on a form and in the manner prescribed by the administrator. Before
18 accepting an election to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan, the
19 administrator shall, within 20 days after the administrator receives notification of the
20 teacher's date of hire, provide the teacher eligible to make an election to participate in
21 the defined contribution retirement plan under AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590 with

22 (1) information, including calculations to illustrate the effect of
23 moving the teacher's retirement plan from the defined benefit retirement plan to the
24 defined contribution retirement plan; and

25 (2) other information clearly to inform the teacher of the potential
26 consequences of the teacher's election.

27 (c) An election made under (a) of this section to participate in the defined
28 contribution retirement plan is irrevocable. Retroactive to the date of hire, the teacher
29 shall be enrolled in the defined contribution retirement plan under AS 14.25.310 -
30 14.25.590, the teacher's participation in the plan shall be governed by the provisions
31 for the defined contribution retirement plan, and the teacher's participation in the

1 defined benefit retirement plan under AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220 shall terminate. An
2 election made by an eligible teacher who is married is not effective unless the election
3 is signed by the teacher's spouse.

4 (d) When an eligible teacher makes an election under (a) of this section, the
5 administrator shall cause the total amount of the teacher's employee and employer
6 contributions, with investment earnings and losses through the final day of the
7 teacher's participation in the defined benefit retirement plan, to be actuarially
8 calculated and transferred to the teacher's designated account in the defined
9 contribution retirement plan. The administrator shall establish transfer procedures by
10 regulation, but the actual transfer may not be later than 30 days after the date the
11 administrator receives the teacher's completed election form under (b) of this section,
12 unless the major financial markets for securities available for a transfer are seriously
13 disrupted by an unforeseen event that also causes the suspension of trading on any
14 national securities exchange in the country where the securities were issued. In that
15 event, the 30-day period may be extended by a resolution of the board. Transfers are
16 not commissionable or subject to other fees and may be in the form of securities or
17 cash as determined by the board. Securities shall be valued on the date of receipt in the
18 teacher's account.

19 (e) An election under (a) of this section made by an eligible teacher who is
20 married is not effective unless the election is signed by the teacher's spouse. An
21 eligible teacher whose accounts are subject to a qualified domestic relations order may
22 not make an election to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan under
23 this section unless the qualified domestic relations order is amended or vacated and
24 court-certified copies of the order are received by the administrator.

25 * **Sec. 12.** AS 39.35.095 is repealed and reenacted to read:

26 **Sec. 39.35.095. Applicability of AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680.** (a) The provisions
27 of AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680 apply to public employees who are eligible to be
28 members of the public employees' retirement system under AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680
29 and are not members of the defined contribution retirement plan under AS 39.35.700 -
30 39.35.990.

31 (b) A public organization or a municipality or other political subdivision of the

1 state that participates in the plan shall also participate in the defined contribution
2 retirement plan under AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990.

3 * Sec. 13. AS 39.35 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4 **Sec. 39.35.128. Participation of elected officials of political subdivisions. (a)**

5 A person who is an elected official of a political subdivision of the state and who has
6 not participated in the plan or waived participation in the plan before July 1, 2016, is a
7 member of the plan if

8 (1) the political subdivision has elected under AS 39.35.600 -
9 39.35.650 to designate elected officials in the classifications of employees entitled to
10 participate in the plan; and

11 (2) the elected official receives compensation from the political
12 subdivision for services as an elected official in the amount of at least \$2,001 a month.

13 (b) An elected official entitled to participate under this section, and who either
14 has no previous service under the system with the political subdivision or is retired
15 under the system, may file a waiver of participation in the plan with the administrator
16 within 30 days after the later of July 1, 2016, or the date that the elected official's term
17 of office begins. A waiver is irrevocable for the remainder of the elected official's
18 service as an elected official or employee of the political subdivision.

19 * Sec. 14. AS 39.35.160(a) is amended to read:

20 (a) Subject to (e) of this section, beginning [BEGINNING] January 1, 1987,
21 each peace officer or firefighter shall contribute to the plan an amount equal to seven
22 and one-half percent of the peace officer's or firefighter's compensation. Except as
23 provided in (d) and (e) of this section, beginning January 1, 1987, each other
24 employee shall contribute to the plan an amount equal to six and three-quarters percent
25 of the employee's compensation. [THE CONTRIBUTIONS SHALL BE DEDUCTED
26 BY THE EMPLOYER AT THE END OF EACH PAYROLL PERIOD. THE
27 CONTRIBUTIONS SHALL BE DEDUCTED FROM EMPLOYEE
28 COMPENSATION BEFORE COMPUTATION OF APPLICABLE FEDERAL
29 TAXES, AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS SHALL BE TREATED AS EMPLOYER
30 CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER 26 U.S.C. 414(h)(2). A MEMBER MAY NOT HAVE
31 THE OPTION OF MAKING THE PAYROLL DEDUCTION DIRECTLY INSTEAD

1 OF HAVING THE CONTRIBUTION PICKED UP BY THE EMPLOYER.]

2 * Sec. 15. AS 39.35.160 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

3 (e) Except as provided in (a) and (d) of this section, an employee, including a
4 peace officer or firefighter, who first participates in the plan after June 30, 2006, shall
5 contribute to the plan an amount equal to eight percent of the employee's
6 compensation.

7 (f) Contributions under (a) and (e) of this section shall be deducted by the
8 employer at the end of each payroll period. The contributions shall be deducted from
9 employee compensation before computation of applicable federal taxes, and the
10 contributions shall be treated as employer contributions under 26 U.S.C. 414(h)(2). A
11 member may not have the option of making the payroll deduction directly instead of
12 having the contribution picked up by the employer.

13 * Sec. 16. AS 39.35.410(g) is amended to read:

14 (g) A disabled employee who first became a member before July 1, 2006,
15 and who is receiving an occupational disability benefit shall undergo a medical
16 examination as often as the administrator considers advisable but not more frequently
17 than once each year. The administrator shall determine the place of the examination
18 and engage the physician or physicians. If, in the judgment of the administrator, the
19 examination indicates that the retired employee is no longer incapacitated because of a
20 total and apparently permanent occupational disability, the administrator may not issue
21 further disability benefits to the employee.

22 * Sec. 17. AS 39.35.410 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

23 (k) A person who first becomes a member after June 30, 2006, and who is
24 appointed to disability benefits shall apply to the division of vocational rehabilitation
25 within 30 days after the date disability benefits commence. The employee shall be
26 enrolled in a rehabilitation program if the employee meets the eligibility requirements
27 of the division of vocational rehabilitation. Unless the employee demonstrates cause,
28 benefits shall terminate at the end of the first month in which a disabled employee

29 (1) fails to report to the division of vocational rehabilitation;

30 (2) is certified by the division of vocational rehabilitation as failing to
31 cooperate in a vocational rehabilitation program;

1 (3) fails to interview for a job; or

2 (4) fails to accept a position offered.

3 * Sec. 18. AS 39.35.535(c) is amended to read:

4 (c) A benefit recipient may elect major medical insurance coverage in
5 accordance with regulations and under the following conditions:

6 (1) a person who first became a member before July 1, 2006, or the
7 surviving spouse of the person, other than a disabled member or a disabled member
8 who is appointed to normal retirement, must pay an amount equal to the full monthly
9 group premium for retiree major medical insurance coverage if the person is

10 (A) younger than 60 years of age and has less than

11 (i) 25 years of credited service as a peace officer under
12 AS 39.35.360 and 39.35.370; or

13 (ii) 30 years of credited service under AS 39.35.360 and
14 39.35.370 that is not service as a peace officer; or

15 (B) of any age and has less than 10 years of credited service;

16 (2) a person who first became a member before July 1, 2006, or the
17 surviving spouse of the person is not required to make premium payments for retiree
18 major medical coverage if the person

19 (A) is a disabled member;

20 (B) is a disabled member who is appointed to normal
21 retirement;

22 (C) is 60 years of age or older and has at least 10 years of
23 credited service; or

24 (D) has at least

25 (i) 25 years of credited service as a peace officer under
26 AS 39.35.360 and 39.35.370; or

27 (ii) 30 years of credited service under AS 39.35.360 and
28 39.35.370 not as a peace officer;

29 (3) a benefit recipient who first becomes a member after June 30,
30 2006, or a benefit recipient who is the surviving spouse of a person who first
31 becomes a member after June 30, 2006, except as provided in (4) and (5) of this

1 subsection, shall pay an amount equal to the full monthly group premium for
 2 retiree major medical insurance coverage; however, except as provided in (4) and
 3 (5) of this subsection, if the benefit recipient is eligible for Medicare, the cost of a
 4 monthly premium is a percentage of the full monthly group premium, as follows:

5 (A) 30 percent if the member has 10 or more, but less than
 6 15, years of service;

7 (B) 25 percent if the member has 15 or more, but less than
 8 20, years of service;

9 (C) 20 percent if the member has 20 or more, but less than
 10 25, years of service;

11 (D) 15 percent if the member has 25 or more, but less than
 12 30, years of service not as a peace officer;

13 (4) except as provided in (5) of this subsection, a benefit recipient
 14 who first becomes a member after June 30, 2006, or a benefit recipient who is the
 15 surviving spouse of a person who first becomes a member after June 30, 2006,
 16 shall pay a monthly premium that is

17 (A) 15 percent of the cost of a full monthly group premium
 18 if the member has 25 or more, but less than 30, years of service as a peace
 19 officer; or

20 (B) 10 percent of the cost of a full monthly group premium
 21 if the member has 30 or more years of service;

22 (5) a benefit recipient who first becomes a member after June 30,
 23 2006, is not required to make premium payments for retiree major medical
 24 coverage if the recipient

25 (A) is a disabled member; or

26 (B) is a disabled member who is appointed to normal
 27 retirement;

28 (6) on or after July 1, 2021, and every five years thereafter, the
 29 administrator shall adjust the percentages under (3) and (4) of this subsection as
 30 needed to maintain, but not to exceed, over the succeeding five years, an
 31 employer normal cost rate for the members and survivors who first became

1 members after June 30, 2006, that does not exceed the combined total of the rates
 2 under AS 39.35.750(a), (b), (d), and (e) minus the employer normal cost rate
 3 attributable to the members who first become members after June 30, 2006, for
 4 benefits under AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.530; an adjustment made under this
 5 paragraph shall remain in effect for five years; in making an adjustment under
 6 this paragraph, the administrator shall maintain the five percent differences
 7 between the percentages in (3)(A), (B), (C), and (D) of this subsection and the five
 8 percent differences between the percentages in (4)(A) and (B) of this subsection;

9 (7) when a member is appointed to retirement, the member
 10 obtains a vested right to the applicable percentage under (3) or (4) of this
 11 subsection, as adjusted under (6) of this subsection, that is in effect when the
 12 member is appointed to retirement; a member does not obtain a vested right to a
 13 percentage under (3) or (4) of this subsection, as adjusted under (6) of this
 14 subsection, before appointment to retirement.

15 * Sec. 19. AS 39.35.620(k) is amended to read:

16 (k) Termination of an employer's participation in the plan does not bar future
 17 participation in the system by that employer if the employer is current with payments
 18 on amounts due under AS 39.35.625. [IF A PREVIOUSLY TERMINATED
 19 EMPLOYER RETURNS TO THE SYSTEM, THE EMPLOYER MAY ONLY
 20 PARTICIPATE IN THE PLAN ESTABLISHED UNDER AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990.
 21 EMPLOYEES MAY BE CREDITED UNDER AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990 ONLY
 22 WITH SERVICE SUBSEQUENT TO THE DATE OF RETURN.]

23 * Sec. 20. AS 39.35.680(18) is amended to read:

24 (18) "employer" means

25 (A) the State of Alaska;

26 (B) a political subdivision or public organization of the state
 27 that participates in the plan based on a resolution to participate in the plan that
 28 was approved by the administrator [ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2006]; or

29 (C) a political subdivision or public organization of the state
 30 that, as a result of consolidation or reorganization [THAT OCCURS ON OR
 31 AFTER JULY 1, 2006], assumes liability under the plan of a political

subdivision or public organization described in (B) of this paragraph;

* Sec. 21. AS 39.35.700 is amended to read:

Sec. 39.35.700. Applicability of AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990. The provisions of AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990 apply only to

(1) members first hired on or after July 1, 2006, and before the effective date of this section who do not transfer to a defined benefit retirement plan under AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220 or AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680;

(2) public employees described in AS 39.35.720 who elect under that section to become [TO MEMBERS WHO ARE EMPLOYED BY EMPLOYERS THAT DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE DEFINED BENEFIT RETIREMENT PLAN ESTABLISHED UNDER AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680, TO FORMER MEMBERS AS DEFINED IN AS 39.35.680, OR TO] members; and

(3) members who transferred [TRANSFER] into the defined contribution retirement plan under former AS 39.35.940.

* Sec. 22. AS 39.35.700 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(b) A public organization as defined in AS 39.35.680 or a municipality or other political subdivision of the state that participates in the plan shall also participate in the defined benefit retirement plan under AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680.

* Sec. 23. AS 39.35.720 is repealed and reenacted to read:

Sec. 39.35.720. Retirement plan election option. (a) A public employee who is first hired on or after the effective date of this section may make a one-time election to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan under AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990 retroactive to the date of hire and may transfer to that plan employee contributions, if any, and employer contributions, if any, that have been made to the defined benefit retirement plan under AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680. Before employer contributions are transferred under this subsection, the administrator shall recalculate them under AS 39.35.255.

(b) The election to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan under (a) of this section must be made within 90 days after the date of hire and be made in writing on a form and in the manner prescribed by the administrator. Before accepting an election to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan under

1 AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990, the administrator shall, within 20 days after the
2 administrator receives notice of the public employee's date of hire, provide the
3 employee eligible to make an election to participate in the defined contribution
4 retirement plan with

5 (1) information, including calculations to illustrate the effect of
6 moving the employee's retirement plan from the defined benefit retirement plan to the
7 defined contribution retirement plan; and

8 (2) other information clearly to inform the employee of the potential
9 consequences of the employee's election.

10 (c) An election made under (a) of this section to participate in the defined
11 contribution retirement plan is irrevocable. Retroactive to the date of hire, the
12 employee shall be enrolled in the defined contribution retirement plan under
13 AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990, the employee's participation in the plan shall be governed
14 by the provisions for the defined contribution retirement plan, and the employee's
15 participation in the defined benefit retirement plan under AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680
16 shall terminate. An election made by an eligible employee who is married is not
17 effective unless the election is signed by the employee's spouse.

18 (d) When an employee makes an election under (a) of this section, the
19 administrator shall cause the total amount of the employee's employee and employer
20 contributions, with investment earnings and losses through the final day of the
21 employee's participation in the defined benefit retirement plan, to be actuarially
22 calculated and transferred to the employee's designated account in the defined
23 contribution retirement plan. The administrator shall establish transfer procedures by
24 regulation, but the actual transfer may not be later than 30 days after the date the
25 administrator receives the employee's completed election form under (b) of this
26 section, unless the major financial markets for securities available for a transfer are
27 seriously disrupted by an unforeseen event that also causes the suspension of trading
28 on any national securities exchange in the country where the securities were issued. In
29 that event, the 30-day period may be extended by a resolution of the board. Transfers
30 are not commissionable or subject to other fees and may be in the form of securities or
31 cash as determined by the board. Securities shall be valued on the date of receipt in the

1 employee's account.

2 (e) An election made by an eligible employee who is married is not effective
3 unless the election is signed by the employee's spouse. An eligible employee whose
4 accounts are subject to a qualified domestic relations order may not make an election
5 to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan under this section unless the
6 qualified domestic relations order is amended or vacated and court-certified copies of
7 the order are received by the administrator.

8 * Sec. 24. AS 14.25.012(c), 14.25.540; AS 39.35.940, and 39.35.957(b) are repealed.

9 * Sec. 25. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
10 read:

11 RETIREMENT PLAN ELECTION CHOICE. (a) A teacher who was first hired after
12 June 30, 2006, and before the effective date of this section and who is a member of the
13 defined contribution plan of the teachers' retirement system under AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590
14 may make a one-time election, within 90 days after the effective date of this section, to
15 participate in the defined benefit retirement plan under AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220 and to
16 transfer all contributions, including employer contributions, that have been made or should be
17 made to the defined contribution retirement plan for service the member completes before the
18 effective date of the member's participation in the defined benefit retirement plan.

19 (b) A public employee who was first hired after June 30, 2006, and before the
20 effective date of this section and who is a member of the defined contribution plan of the
21 public employees' retirement system under AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990 may make a one-time
22 election, within 90 days after the effective date of this section, to participate in the defined
23 benefit retirement plan under AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680 and to transfer all contributions,
24 including employer contributions, that have been made or should be made to the defined
25 contribution retirement plan for any service the member completes before the effective date of
26 the member's participation in the defined benefit retirement plan.

27 * Sec. 26. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
28 read:

29 RETIREMENT PLAN ELECTION PROCEDURE; REGULATIONS REQUIRED.

30 (a) The election to participate in the defined benefit retirement plan under sec. 25 of this Act
31 must be made in writing on forms and in the manner prescribed by the administrator. Before

1 accepting an election to participate in the defined benefit retirement plan, the administrator
2 shall provide the employee planning on making an election to participate in the defined
3 benefit retirement plan with information, including calculations to illustrate the effect of
4 moving the employee's retirement plan from the defined contribution retirement plan to the
5 defined benefit retirement plan as well as other information clearly to inform the employee of
6 the potential consequences of the employee's election.

7 (b) An election made under sec. 25 of this Act to participate in the defined benefit
8 retirement plan is irrevocable. On the effective date of the election, an eligible employee who
9 makes the election shall be enrolled as a member of the defined benefit retirement plan, the
10 employee's participation in the plan shall be governed by the provisions for the defined
11 benefit retirement plan, and the employee's participation in the defined contribution retirement
12 plan shall terminate. The employee's enrollment in the defined benefit retirement plan shall be
13 effective retroactive to the date of hire. An election made by an eligible employee who is
14 married is not effective unless the election is signed by the employee's spouse.

15 (c) When an eligible employee makes a one-time election under sec. 25 of this Act,
16 the administrator shall cause the total amount of the employee's employee and employer
17 contributions, with investment earnings and losses through the final day of the employee's
18 participation as a member in the defined contribution retirement plan, to be actuarially
19 calculated and, subject to (d) of this section, transferred to the pension fund in the defined
20 benefit retirement plan. On the effective date of the employee's participation in the defined
21 benefit retirement plan, the employee shall be credited with service in the defined benefit
22 retirement plan that is equal to the employee's service in years, including fractional years,
23 recognized for computing benefits that may be due from the defined contribution retirement
24 plan. The board shall establish transfer procedures by regulation, but the actual transfer may
25 not be later than 30 days after the date the administrator receives the employee's completed
26 election forms under (a) of this section, unless the major financial markets for securities
27 available for a transfer are seriously disrupted by an unforeseen event that also causes the
28 suspension of trading on any national securities exchange in the country where the securities
29 were issued. In that event, the 30-day period may be extended by a resolution of the board.
30 Transfers are not commissionable or subject to other fees and may be in the form of securities
31 or cash as determined by the board. Securities shall be valued on the date of receipt in the

1 employee's account.

2 (d) If the value actuarially calculated under (c) of this section is insufficient to pay for
 3 a service credit equal to the employee's actual service, the administrator shall allow the
 4 employee to create an indebtedness up to the amount needed to eliminate the insufficiency;
 5 however, if that value exceeds the amount needed to pay for a service credit equal to the
 6 employee's actual service, the administrator shall cause the excess to be paid to the employee
 7 as a rollover transfer to either an individual employee annuity account in the Department of
 8 Administration under the terms of AS 39.30.150 - 39.30.180 (State of Alaska Supplemental
 9 Annuity Plan) or, if the employee's employer does not participate in the State of Alaska
 10 Supplemental Annuity Plan, to an eligible retirement plan as defined in AS 14.25.360(d) or
 11 AS 39.35.760(d). An excess under this subsection may not be used to purchase service credit
 12 in a retirement plan administered under AS 14.25 or AS 39.35.

13 (e) The provisions of this section are subject to the requirements of the Internal
 14 Revenue Code and the limitations under AS 14.25.010, 14.25.320(c) and (d), 14.25.490,
 15 AS 39.35.115, 39.35.678, 39.35.710(c) and (d), and 39.35.895.

16 (f) In this section,

17 (1) "administrator" means the commissioner of administration or the person
 18 designated by the commissioner of administration under AS 39.35.003 for a public
 19 employees' retirement plan and under AS 14.25.003 for a teachers' retirement plan;

20 (2) "board" means the Alaska Retirement Management Board established
 21 under AS 37.10.210;

22 (3) "defined benefit retirement plan" means the retirement plan established
 23 under

24 (A) AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220 for a teacher; or

25 (B) AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680 for a public employee;

26 (4) "defined contribution retirement plan" means the retirement plan
 27 established under

28 (A) AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590 for a teacher; or

29 (B) AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990 for a public employee;

30 (5) "Internal Revenue Code" has the meaning given in AS 39.35.990.

31 * Sec. 27. The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to

1 read:

2 ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS. The commissioner of administration shall adopt
3 regulations necessary to implement the changes made by this Act. The regulations take effect
4 under AS 44.62 (Administrative Procedure Act), but not before the effective date of the law
5 implemented by the regulation.

6 * Sec. 28. Sections 26 and 27 of this Act take effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

7 * Sec. 29. Except as provided in sec. 28 of this Act, this Act takes effect January 1, 2019.



Representative Sam Kito

Alaska State Legislature

House District 33

Downtown Juneau

Douglas

Haines

Klukwan

Skagway

Gustavus

Excursion Inlet

Chair

House Labor & Commerce

Chair

Legislative Council

Member

House Health &
Social Services

Member

House Rules

Contact

Rep. Sam Kito

Alaska State Capitol 403

120 4th St

Juneau, AK 99801

907-465-4766

Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov

Explanation of Changes

House Bill 83

PERS/TRS

Version N to Version T

Version T includes the following changes to HB 83 version N:

- Broadened the title to refer to more than the new tiers, use the more precise title "Public Employees' Retirement System of Alaska."
- Added a new Sec. 1 at the department's request, making it easier for teachers to return to work after recovering from a disability. The section will allow TRS to accept a certification of rehabilitation from other states' vocational rehabilitation offices.
- Changed Sec. 6 at the department's request to ease potentially burdensome exams for teachers getting a disability pension.
- Changed Sec. 7 at the department's request to allow TRS to accept vocational rehabilitation services in other states for teachers on a disability pension.
- Adjusted Sec. 9 at the department's request to clarify which retiree medical plan applies to teachers who retire in the new DB tier. Also updates the first risk adjustment to health care premiums to 2024, five years after the effective date.
- Removed from Sec. 12, at the Department of Law's request, the requirement that a teacher's spouse agree to the initial choice between the DB and DC plans.
- Adds a new Sec. 13 at the department's request so teachers appointed to disability in the DC plan can receive vocational rehabilitation in other states.
- Conforms Sec. 15 to the new effective date.
- Clarified Sec. 18 language covering non-occupational disability benefits, as requested by the department.
- Changed Sec. 19 at the department's request to allow PERS to accept vocational rehabilitation services in other states for those on a disability pension.
- Adjusted Sec. 20 at the department's request to clarify which retiree medical plan applies to employees who retire in the new DB tier. Also updates the first risk adjustment to health care premiums to 2024, five years after the effective date.

- Removed from Sec. 25, at the Department of Law's request, the requirement that a teacher's spouse agree to the initial choice between the DB and DC plans.
- Adds a new Sec. 26 at the department's request so teachers appointed to disability in the DC plan can receive vocational rehabilitation in other states.
- Sec. 29 has a conforming change to a section number within the bill.
- Sec. 30 has been changed so it does not alter the department's existing regulations process for the retirement systems.
- Section 31 has conforming changes to reflect the appropriate section numbers in the CS.
- Section 32 changes the effective date to July 1, 2019.

Fiscal Note

State of Alaska
2018 Legislative Session

Bill Version: HB 83
Fiscal Note Number: _____
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier: HB083-DOA-COM-02-09-18
Title: TEACHERS & PUB EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT PLANS
Sponsor: KITO
Requester: House Labor & Commerce

Department: Department of Administration
Appropriation: Centralized Administrative Services
Allocation: Office of the Commissioner
OMB Component Number: 45

Expenditures/Revenues

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below. (Thousands of Dollars)

	FY2019 Appropriation Requested	Included in Governor's FY2019 Request	Out-Year Cost Estimates				
			FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2019	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Personal Services	***		***	***	***	***	***
Travel							
Services							
Commodities							
Capital Outlay							
Grants & Benefits							
Miscellaneous							
Total Operating	***	0.0	***	***	***	***	***

Fund Source (Operating Only)

None							
Total	***	0.0	***	***	***	***	***

Positions

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

Change in Revenues

None							
Total	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimated SUPPLEMENTAL (FY2018) cost: 0.0 (separate supplemental appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

Estimated CAPITAL (FY2019) cost: 0.0 (separate capital appropriation required)
(discuss reasons and fund source(s) in analysis section)

ASSOCIATED REGULATIONS

Does the bill direct, or will the bill result in, regulation changes adopted by your agency? Yes
If yes, by what date are the regulations to be adopted, amended or repealed? 06/30/19

Why this fiscal note differs from previous version/comments:

Initial version -- actuarial fiscal note.

Prepared By:	Ajai Desai, Director	Phone:	(907)465-4471
Division:	Division of Retirement and Benefits	Date:	02/09/2018 08:00 AM
Approved By:	Leslie Ridle, Commissioner	Date:	02/09/18
Agency:	Department of Administration		

FISCAL NOTE ANALYSIS

**STATE OF ALASKA
2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

BILL NO. HB 83

Analysis

An actuarial valuation must be completed by the plan actuary to determine the cost of the proposed plan changes and the affects on any future unfunded liability. Until this analysis is completed, the costs are indeterminate. The administrative cost related to HB 83 has been calculated and submitted under a separate fiscal note.

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Jake Todd, and I am a born and raised Alaskan. My parents moved to Alaska in the early 1970s, and became teachers in the Anchorage area. Growing up with a wonderful community around me helped me to become the person I am today. Great friendships and working relationships were modeled to me by my parents.

I remember spending Saturday afternoons with my mom in the Hanshew Junior High library where she was the librarian, and seeing the other teachers come by, stacks of papers in one hand, coffee in the other. I would find my way through the Dewey Decimal system to reshelve books while she was busy doing other things to get caught up. I remember orienteering in the rain at the Hillside Trails with my father, who was a PE teacher at Service High School. While he was teaching me strategy and map reading, he was actually lesson planning for his PE classes that would be out learning the same ideas that I was test running for him at that moment.

Its these memories that I held onto in college, when I decided that a life of public service in my community was what I would build my life around. Seeing my parents run into former students, then the children of former students, and even the grand children of former students - all of whom also knew my parents and would be delighted to chat while in the grocery store check out line. These deep roots within the community were only reinforced when my father passed away in 2016. The service was packed to capacity with other teachers, former students and athletes: all of whom came to share their stories of what an impact my father had had on their lives at some point.

It makes me all the more sad to say that I was forced to leave Alaska for good in 2017. I don't want to be rich. I will never be on the cover of GQ. All I want to be is a great teacher. Though I was nominated for the BP Teacher of the Year in 2016, I could not afford to stay in Alaska. With student loan debt, the housing market being what it is, no coverage by social security, no pension from teaching and no healthcare upon retirement - Alaska is simply not worth the risk to my life. 49 other states and all of the US Territories offer some sort of pension/social security option. Alaska is the ONLY state without that.

So, this life long, born and raised Alaskan left the state. After serving as a Peace Corp Volunteer in the Middle East, enlisting in the Alaska National Guard, and returning to a life of service in public education in a community that I used to know - I decided to move to a state that offered less pay, but better benefits. My healthcare costs have decreased by over \$1000 a month. I am back on the productive side of social security. I no longer have to worry about budget cuts coming for my job year after year. My blood pressure has decreased.

I had to trade my home for a chance at a life. It is still giving me intense feelings of sadness. I implore you to make a change to the TRS3/PRS4 system. It is bankrupting the state, but more than that- it is destroying the communities these public servants are trying to contribute to.

Jake Todd

From: [Monica Todden](#)
To: [House Labor and Commerce](#)
Subject: FW: We want pensions, vote YES on HB 83
Date: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 5:16:53 PM

From: Claudia Sutton [mailto:info@actionnetwork.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 12:57 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito.III@akleg.gov>
Subject: We want pensions, vote YES on HB 83

Sam Kito,

A bill to revive Alaska's public pension system has been filed in the state House of Representatives. It would give more than 41,000 teachers, firefighters, and other public employees the option to choose a pension for their retirement savings.

For 10 years, our firefighters, teachers, and other public employees have only had access to a risky 401(k)-style plan. For the majority of Alaskan workers, a 401(k) is just not getting them where they need to be for retirement. This bill will give public employees better options for how they save for retirement.

This bill will benefit all Alaska residents as pensions are an important tool for recruiting and retaining public employees like nurses, firefighters, police officers, and teachers.

Please support giving public employees a pension choice!

Claudia Sutton
clsutton2@gmail.com
2630 John St
Juneau, Alaska 99801

||

From: Monica Todden
To: [House Labor and Commerce](#)
Subject: FW: We want pensions, vote YES on HB 83
Date: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 5:09:17 PM

Beth,

Thank you for your comments regarding HB83. Representative Kito is the Sponsor of this bill. You may find information on the bill here: <http://www.akleg.gov/basis/Bill/Detail/30?Root=HB%20%2083>

We are keeping track of our constituents who contact us regarding this issue and I will ensure that Representative Kito sees your remarks.

Thank you for contacting us, and have a great day!

Monica Todden

STAFF TO REP. SAM KITO
(907) 465-4766
STATE CAPITOL #403
JUNEAU ALASKA 99801

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Representing Downtown Juneau, Douglas Island, Haines, Klukwan, Skagway, Gustavus, and Excursion Inlet

From: Beth Stewart [mailto:info@actionnetwork.org]
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 9:24 AM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito.III@akleg.gov>
Subject: We want pensions, vote YES on HB 83

Sam Kito,

A bill to revive Alaska's public pension system has been filed in the state House of Representatives. It would give more than 41,000 teachers, firefighters, and other public employees the option to choose a pension for their retirement savings.

This bill is another slap in the face to Alaskans. Pandering to the oil companies instead of building a stable economy is disgusting.

I am proud of Juneau's delegation, and want to support your efforts to restore some modicum of sanity to the legislature.

Like you, I grew up in Alaska before oil became the latest boom. We had schools, we had jobs with health care and retirement benefits. We had roads, and we came back from a devastating earthquake. All this without paying royalties to a single oil company. Of course we also paid income tax and that funky school tax.

For 10 years, our firefighters, teachers, and other public employees have only had access

to a risky 401(k)-style plan. For the majority of Alaskan workers, a 401(k) is just not getting them where they need to be for retirement. This bill will give public employees better options for how they save for retirement.

This bill will benefit all Alaska residents as pensions are an important tool for recruiting and retaining public employees like nurses, firefighters, police officers, and teachers.

Please support giving public employees a pension choice!

Beth Stewart
bethontheroad@gmail.com
2767 John Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801

||

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Friday, February 9, 2018 4:48:35 PM

From: Dior, Mawuor C (DOC) [mailto:mawuor.dior@alaska.gov]

Sent: Friday, February 9, 2018 4:29 PM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Thank you for all you do!

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Friday, February 9, 2018 4:49:05 PM
Attachments: [Outlook-n3ib0k2y.png](#)

Edric Carrillo
Legislative Aide
Office of Representative Kito
Alaska State Capitol, Room 403
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907)465-4766

From: Brittney Allen [mailto:ballen91@outlook.com]
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2018 4:34 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 83

Dear Legislator,

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

From: [Rep. Sam Kito](#)
To: [Bianca Carpeneti](#)
Cc: [House Labor and Commerce](#)
Subject: FW: HB 83 support
Date: Friday, March 24, 2017 10:22:53 AM

From: Christine Nichols [mailto:CNichols@fnsb.us]
Sent: Thursday, March 23, 2017 1:49 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito.III@akleg.gov>; rep.adam.woll@akleg.gov; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>; Rep. Bryce Edgmon <Rep.Bryce.Edgmon@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 83 support

Good afternoon Chair Kito and Committee

Thank you for taking the time to consider Defined Benefits versus Defined Contributions.

I support this legislation. HB 83 will allow both the employee and the employer to make informed choices.

Longevity in the work place means the employer invests less time and money in continually training new staff. Long term staff approaching retirement will have something solid to count on and look forward to.

It is my belief that well cared for staff are more willing to properly train their replacements thus leaving their work environments well trained, set up for success and cared for. We all want to leave the workplace with a clear conscience and hope for our future.

HB 83 will give this greater measure of comfort to all involved.

Kindest Regards,
Christine Nichols (APEA/AFT)
Fairbanks North Star Borough,
Computer Services
(907)459-1490

From: [Edric Carrillo](mailto:Edric.Carrillo)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](mailto:Caitlyn.Ellis)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 8:38:45 AM

Edric Carrillo
Legislative Aide
Office of Representative Kito
Alaska State Capitol, Room 403
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907)465-4766

From: Dawn Nelson [mailto:dawndm1@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 8:10 AM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Dawn Nelson

1000 North Plymouth Circle

Wasilla, AK 99654

907-354-7066

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 8:38:20 AM

Edric Carrillo
Legislative Aide
Office of Representative Kito
Alaska State Capitol, Room 403
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907)465-4766

From: Jodi Stuart [mailto:jmariestuart@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 7:43 AM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB83

Good morning State of Alaska Representatives!

Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 8:37:58 AM

From: Denise N [mailto:dnakachi@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 7:27 AM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>

Cc: ASEA Local 52 <aseahq@afscmelocal52.org>

Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Dear Legislator,

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Denise Nakachi

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 8:36:58 AM

From: nukasue-n-tom [mailto:nukasue@yahoo.com]

Sent: Sunday, February 11, 2018 7:52 PM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for HB 83

Dear Legislator,

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, Hard-working state employee since 2003 - please don't sell Alaska's future short!!!

Sue Goodglick
12731 Cardinal Circle
Anchorage, AK 99516

From: [Edric Carrillo](mailto:Edric.Carrillo)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](mailto:Caitlyn.Ellis)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 8:36:41 AM

From: Susan Jakonis [<mailto:simoneak@icloud.com>]
Sent: Sunday, February 11, 2018 4:21 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Cc: Rep. Matt Claman <Rep.Matt.Claman@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 83

I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Aspects of PERS Tier IV are detrimental to retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's need to recruit and retain qualified employees. I can say from experience that as I get older and my personal life changed, details of the state's retirement plan became more important to me. I have a lot of value to give to the state for some time to come. Looking forward to stable retirement would be a great incentive.

As I look over the spectrum of state employees, I do not see that the entire group is in a position to manage their investments on their own. Further, the medical benefits of the proposed plan catch my eye positively. Like many others, I am facing working until age 65 due to health insurance. A situation where employees are not tied to working past 60 if they do not need to, but for health insurance, is positive for everyone. Young people have a chance to take those positions to support their families. Employees retiring between 60-65 creates people who contribute to the economy and community when they volunteer, teach, minister, coach, etc. instead of waiting until they are older and less energetic.

I encourage you to SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan Jakonis
2439 LaHonda Drive

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 10:09:44 AM

From: Ronald Johnson [mailto:rajohnson@alaska.edu]
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 10:06 AM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 83

Dear Rep Kito

What is the assumed ROR for the funds deposited by the new folks for HB 83?

--

Ron Johnson
Professor Emeritus
Mechanical and Environmental Engineering
Univ of Alaska Fairbanks

2113 Jack St
Fairbanks, AK 99709

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: HB83 Pension Choice
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 8:32:01 AM

From: Gary Miller [mailto:gmillers.juneauak@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 10, 2018 11:58 AM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB83 Pension Choice

I support HB83, the pension choice for either a defined contribution (401K) or a defined benefit.

I worked for the State of Alaska for 27 years and the City and Borough of Juneau for two years. After dedicating 29 years of my life to public service, I am fortunate to have the defined benefit retirement.

I am 69 years old. I am financially secure as I age because I have a defined benefit retirement. I don't know anything about investing and with the defined benefit system I am in, professional investors are keeping me safe. This major stock market crash is killing those public employees who are in a defined contribution and managing their own investments. They won't have a safe retirement; they should not have to leave public service to find a better retirement system.

Current employees should also have the option to switch from the defined contribution to the defined benefit system if they pay any balance difference needed. Don't forget that you too are a state employee as are your staff members. All of you also deserve a safe defined benefit system. Think about that when you are working until midnight or on weekends or four special sessions. **NO ONE** should have to worry about financial security when they are old.

Please support HB83 and vote yes.

Gary Miller
20135 Cohen Dr

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Please Advance HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 10:11:59 AM

Dear Legislator,

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Please!!! Advance HB 83!
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 10:11:48 AM

From: Valerie White [<mailto:valerie.j.white@gmail.com>]
Sent: Friday, February 9, 2018 6:35 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>
Subject: Please!!! Advance HB 83!

Dear Legislator Kito and Legislator Wool,

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money. Please advance HB 83.

-Valerie

From: [Edric Carrillo](mailto:Edric.Carrillo)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](mailto:Caitlyn.Ellis)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 10:11:35 AM

From: Anne Remick [<mailto:aremick3@gmail.com>]

Sent: Friday, February 9, 2018 5:32 PM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Anne Remick
2627 Lovejoy Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508

Sent from my iPad

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 10:09:58 AM

From: Karla Canti [<mailto:heavenshounds@gmail.com>]

Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 10:04 AM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for HB 83

Dear Legislator,

I was hired as a Juvenile Probation Officer in 2008, and have been working for the State in that position ever since and have always considered this my career. The only thing that keeps me from being able to be content in my position is knowing that I do not have a retirement plan with the state. I feel that without a competitive and dignified retirement plan I would be foolish to work in this position too long. I have seen the state lose experienced and good workers because they do not feel that it would be an intelligent move to stay with the state when there are few to no benefits later in life for doing so. I have been injured in this job, and will have health issues from my injury for the rest of my life. It does not feel good knowing that I have given so much to my job over these 10 years while knowing that as soon as the state is done with me I will be tossed aside.

I want to make my career with the State. I love what I do, and I feel that I help people and help my State be better. As I get older and look towards my future I am disheartened at my prospects if I stayed with the State. Please pass this bill and help Alaska retain good hardworking people - and care for those that have spent their working years contributing to this State. I do not want to be locked into a position that I will have to work until 65 so I will receive medical coverage. As much as I love my job I will eventually have to make a hard decision to stay and do what I love or leave and look for a position that will better support me and my family in later life.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Karla Hallgren
4301 N Farm Loop
Palmer Alaska

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 11:36:37 AM

From: Marlin Bowles [mailto:mbowles@mortonarb.org]
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 10:19 AM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Marlin Bowles

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 11:45:23 AM
Attachments: [20180212_102300.pdf](#)

From: Devin Johnson [mailto:devin.r.johnson1524@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 10:28 AM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 11:59:38 AM

From: Rodney H. Kay [<mailto:kaycom@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 11:51 AM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Pardon the typo's
Sent from my iPhone
Rodney H. Kay
Eagle River, AK

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 12:08:53 PM

From: Poynter, Aline (HSS) [mailto:aline.poynter@alaska.gov]
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 12:02 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative's,

Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

You are my voice and do wish you would consider in supporting this.

I thank you in advance for being my voice.

Again thank you,

Alene Poynter

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 12:23:01 PM

From: pg_elli [mailto:pg_elli@yahoo.com]

Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 12:15 PM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Dear Legislator,

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

-Priscilla Morris
15013 Terrace Lane
Eagle River, AK

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 12:40:40 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Leanne Quirk [<mailto:leanne.quirk@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 12:34 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

I am a State employee hired in 2008 and I would like to have the Defined Benefit retirement option described in HB 83.

I would appreciate your support for HB 83 to provide this option to State employees like myself.

Thank you,
Leanne Quirk

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 11:36:05 AM

From: jbpapenbrock [mailto:jbpapenbrock@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 10:15 AM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

The state of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees like myself building a career around providing quality service to my fellow Alaskan's. HB 83 proposes a defined benefit retirement option to me and my fellow coworkers, studies have shown that pieces of legislation like this one will Save the State money. It is my belief with benefits like these in place it will be easier not only for the State to recruit new employees but also retain the ones they currently have. Instead of a revolving door of employees simply coming to the State in order to receive the training necessary to obtain a job in the private sector with better pay and benefits. As a career minded individual currently employed with the State I feel as though this bill would provide not only myself but my fellow Alaskan's serving the state with pride in the pursute of our careers a dignified and stable retirement. My coworkers and I would be greatfull for the passing of this Bill as an effort to show us Alaska cares as much about us as we care about Alaska ! Please support HB 83 and the benefits it provides those of us building a career in service of the State.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Justin Papenbrock
2900 Linda Ave.
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S® 5 ACTIVE™, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 6:44:29 PM

From: Thomas Johnson [mailto:johnson.thomas45120@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 6:05 PM

To: Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Please support this Bill. Today I turned 61 and only have 4.5 state service, I won't make it to 20 years much less 25 years. I need some stabilization when I do become to old to work for the State.

Thank you,

Thomas F. Johnson

From: [Edric Carrillo](mailto:Edric.Carrillo)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](mailto:Caitlyn.Ellis)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 6:44:15 PM

From: Chris Richardson [<mailto:richardson@gci.net>]
Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 6:03 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

I have worked for the Municipality of Anchorage since 2001, and am a PERS tier 3 member.

Since the changeover to the defined contribution/tier 4 in 2006, I have seen many co-workers come and go. Many of these talented individuals left because they could find equal benefits - and better pay - in the private sector. The one advantage that local government work always had, and still has for me - access to a defined benefit retirement system - no longer applies to new hires, so skilled new hires have not stuck around.

This has caused huge staffing challenges in my department and the departments around me as long term employees have retired and are replaced by tier 4 employees - leading to higher turnover and less qualified candidates. In the end, I'm afraid it has resulted in a less efficient government.

From what I've seen of the proposals in HB 83, returning to a defined benefit system would be a win-win for not only the PERS participants and their employees, but for every resident of our great state. Please do what's right for our state and move this legislation along.

Thanks,

Chris Richardson
7642 Brentwood Drive
Anchorage, AK 99502

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 1:41:57 PM

From: David Gambel [mailto:larvalgeek@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 1:40 PM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

David Gambel
900 S Begich Dr, Wasilla AK 99654
760.705.4335

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 1:41:33 PM

From: Hunter Brosh [mailto:hunter.brosh@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 1:35 PM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83. please vote "yes" on HB 83.

thank you for your consideration,

Hunter

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 1:40:45 PM

From: Longfellow, Billie S (HSS) [<mailto:billie.longfellow@alaska.gov>]

Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 1:32 PM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

As a member of ASEA Local 52 I completely support HB 83 and hope that it receives both your serious consideration and support. Working not as a peace officer, but as a Juvenile Justice Officer, HB 83 will greatly benefit state employees who may have physical jobs which still require a 30 year retirement.

Thank you for your time.

Billie S. Longfellow
JJO II
Mat-Su Youth Facility
DHSS
Member of ASEA Local 52

From: [Sorcha Hazelton](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: HB 83 Support
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 8:42:20 AM

From: Greg Albrecht [mailto:gregoryalbrecht@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 8:28 AM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>

Subject: HB 83 Support

Hello,

When I took a job with Fish and Game in 2011 at the age of 27 I took it with the assumption that some day a Tier 5 option would come along. Though my 401k has grown due to favorable stock market conditions, I have always considered the potential for not having enough in retirement. Subsequently, I have invested 25% of my income into 401K plan (state and other) and lived a more humble life to support 3 children, always keeping my eyes peeled for other job prospects.

I've watched 7 young and talented employees come and go in my 6.5 year tenure in an office that supports about 9 employees, all of them mentioning the lack of pension and retirement health benefits as part of the reason for leaving so easily.

The numbers seem clear to me, no additional cost to the state. The benefits are even clearer; more folks sticking around, growing into their careers with the state, spending more money to fuel the economy now with assurance of having enough later.

I hope you will all work to see this legislation through to law. Thank you for your service to our state.

Greg Albrecht

From: [Sorcha Hazelton](mailto:Sorcha.Hazelton)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](mailto:Caitlyn.Ellis)
Subject: FW: Support HB 83
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 8:22:25 AM

From: AUBREY RABY [mailto:araby@gci.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 8:06 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HB 83

Dear Legislator,

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

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Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Aubrey Raby
6511 E 11th Ave, Apt B
Anchorage, AK 99504

From: [Sorcha Hazelton](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 8:57:17 AM

From: Erin Gleason [mailto:epgleason@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, February 12, 2018 10:55 PM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative

s,

I am a life long Alaskan and employee of the State of Alaska. During my graduate work at the University of Alaska Fairbanks I was the intern at the Department of Natural Resources in Fairbanks. Upon graduation I moved to Anchorage and now work for the Department of Environmental Conservation. I greatly enjoy my position with DEC and am proud to do good work for Alaska. As a resident and employee, I ask that you support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Sincerely,
Erin Gleason
907-888-0435

From: Johnthomas Williamson
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Another HB 83 supporter.
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 8:48:34 AM

Hello,

I am a State of Alaska employee, Tier III. Less than two years ago, my coworker and his wife, who was a Tier IV employee, left their State employment to seek job opportunities in Maine. The Tier IV employee was at a Range 25 and has her Juris Doctorate. Neither of these people saw a bright future with working for the State and decided to take action. The move was solely economic, as neither had any connections to Maine. This is just one example of the State losing high value personnel due to a lack of confidence in long-term stability with the State.

HB 83 would help in restoring a confidence that was lost when Tier IV was created.

Johnthomas Williamson

Appraiser II, DNR.

From: Ethan Graetz
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 9:02:29 AM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Ethan Graetz
596 Golden Morn St, Fbks, Ak 99712

From: Canfield, Terry L (DOT)
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 6:57:04 AM

I am contacting you concerning the Public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

I have been a public employee since 1993 and I am vested in the Tier II retirement plan so I do not have a direct stake in this bill. I currently work for the Department of Transportation in the Aviation Design Section. I am not a member of the Union.

I would like to share my observations and options concerning the way the current retirement system for new hires since 2006 has impacted this organization.

Currently the only employment retention incentive is promotion (read better pay). There is no continuous path here for a new hire to be promoted with any surety regardless of their qualifications or ambition. A person is forced to wait for vacant positions or move to a new job internally if they want to keep working for the state. Because more opportunities for advancement are available elsewhere and because their 401(K) retirement plan is no better here than anywhere else, people are leaving State employment as soon as they can qualify for other work, be it through job experience, continued education or professional advancement.

We have to hire folks with little or no direct experience in Airports. We invest in training them and when they can find a new job position doing the same work for 10 to 15% in more benefits they leave.

I have seen this trend accelerate since 2006 and have spoken with several people about their reasons for leaving state employment. With rare exception (two people I can recall) the reasons they give is the lack of benefits or promotion opportunities.

One of the major reasons I have stayed with the State was because I qualified for a Defined Benefit retirement. I have had several offers to go elsewhere, many from local employers. I probably would have accepted one of them except for the Tier II Defined Benefit retirement I have with the State. I think a the Defined Benefit retirement to be a major consideration when making the decision about where to work.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely
Terry L. Canfield

From: Ashley Miller
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 9:47:26 PM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Dear Legislator,

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

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Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,
Ashley Miller

Sent from my iPhone

From: Holly Wilson
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 7:19:46 PM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

With the current state of the stock market, I may not even be able to retire from State employment with enough of a pension to survive based on the current Tier IV Defined Contribution pension plan. As an older worker, the thought of retirement scares me.....will I be able to survive off of the pension amount I will receive? I am also scared of the thought of having to work until the day I die because I cannot afford to retire! This is not even taking into account that I may not have health insurance benefits available to me upon retiring or that I will be able to afford in addition to Medicare premiums.

Additionally, State employees do not pay into the Federal Social Security system which means that back-up pension may not even be available once age eligibility is reached.

There does not seem to be much incentive anymore to building a career in State Government when private sector jobs pay as well, if not better, offer stable pension plans, as well as retiree health benefits.

Please support HB 83. Not only will it offer incentive to people entering the workforce in Alaska to get into and stay in Government Service, it will make State employment competitive with private sector employment again as well as give dedicated State employees the feeling of security knowing they have a pension plan that will be there for them to enjoy after their many years of dedicated service!

Holly Wilson
907-209-7682

From: Rafal Ferdynus
To: [Sen. Shelley Hughes](#); [Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux](#); [Rep. Cathy Tilton](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Mike Chenault](#); Representative.Kurt.Olson@akleg.gov; Representative.Jim.Colver@akleg.gov
Subject: HB83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 8:40:30 AM

Dear Legislators,

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

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Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Rafal Ferdynus
6811 Gold Kings Cir Unit C
Anchorage, AK 99504

From: jenni morella
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 8:24:14 AM

Dear Legislator,

I am an Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fisheries Biologist hired in 2017. The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

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Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jennifer Morella
100 Bluff Trail Drive
Cordova AK 99574

From: Rob and Gina Carpenter
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 7:25:32 AM

Dear Legislator,

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

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Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

You are legislating for health care provision for people like me, a nurse who has worked for 35 plus years, caring for others, joining State service in 2011, and now looking near retirement with no health insurance.

I appreciate the work in session is hard, disagreeing on income tax, state workers are already providing tax-like support in furlough days we are required to take. This is a Great state, please demonstrate that by supporting House Bill 83.

Thank you for your consideration, and all the hard work you are doing.

Gina Carpenter

Dillingham Alaska

From: Chris Conway
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 8:11:17 PM

Hello Representative,

Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

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Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Chris Conway
1204 N Jack Nicklaus Dr.
Wasilla, AK 99623

From: Mesepa Faavae
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 6:40:00 PM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

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Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration. for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Mesepa Fa'avae
32985 Dans Court
Soldotna, Alaska

From: [Sorcha Hazelton](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 8:15:37 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: Jolene Withers [<mailto:jolene.withers@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 5:44 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 83

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Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jolene Withers
Anchorage, AK 99515
jolene.withers@gmail.com

Sent from my iPad

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 2:10:05 PM

From: Chelsy [mailto:chelsy31588@yahoo.com]

Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 1:58 PM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for HB 83

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Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Chelsy Maller
9574 Meadow Lane
Juneau, AK 99801

From: [Sorcha Hazelton](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 1:11:40 PM

From: Emily Evans [mailto:emilysueevans@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 12:59 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Dear Legislator,

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

From: [Sorcha Hazelton](mailto:Sorcha.Hazelton)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](mailto:Caitlyn.Ellis)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 12:14:21 PM

From: Brendon Seiffert [<mailto:bsseiffert@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 11:04 AM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

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Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 4:19:16 PM

From: Katie Evans [mailto:katie.lee44@hotmail.com]

Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 4:03 PM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83. My brother in law is a state probation officer. And for him to be able to have health insurance when he retires right now he will have to work until he is 65 and then retire with Medicare. This is not alright to me and I beg you to do something about it. I work in the healthcare industry. I watch people come in and out of the ICU and not be able to pay. To have Bills upon bills when they get out just so they could live another day sometimes. Please work at putting this bill through.

Thank you!

Katie Silva

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Galina Lintelman
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 10:07:23 AM

Dear Legislator,

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

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Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Galina Lintelman

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 1:00:10 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Doggett, Dolores C (HSS) [<mailto:delores.doggett@alaska.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 12:00 PM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>

Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Please support HB 83. Thank you so much for your time and efforts to make our state a better place to live.

Sincerely,

Dolores C. Doggett
1306 Edgecumbe Drive
Sitka, Ak 99835
dolores1995doggett@yahoo.com

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 11:13:22 AM

From: kari Hull [mailto:akotter03@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 11:11 AM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 83

Dear Legislator,

Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits. I myself am having to weigh that option as I am a Tier 4 employee and do not wish to be a burden on my family as I age/retire. A Defined Benefit plan option would help me in my planning to avoid this undue burden to them, would bring me a great sense of relief and provide me with incentive to continue to work for the State of Alaska.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Kari Hull
4027 Delta Dr Apt B
Juneau, AK 99801

From: Brittany Blackwell
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 1:27:43 PM

Dear Legislators,

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

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Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Brittany Loper
3001 W 42nd Ave
Anchorage, AK 99517
email: blackwellbrit@gmail.com

From: Lynda Giguere
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](mailto:Rep.Sam.Kito)
Subject: Re: Support HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 1:16:12 PM

Thank you, Edric. I'd also like to add that a pension will make the State of Alaska a more desirable place to work and will attract better and more qualified candidates to positions that serve the public. It's a win win.

Regards,
Lynda Giguere

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 15, 2018, at 1:00 PM, Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov> wrote:

Hello Lynda,

Thank you for contacting Representative Kito - House Labor and Commerce Committee Chair. We will be sure to add your comments to the committee packet. Please let me know if you have any further questions or concerns.

Best,

Edric Carrillo
Legislative Aide
Office of Representative Kito
Alaska State Capitol, Room 403
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907)465-4766

From: Lynda Giguere [<mailto:lynda.giguere@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 12:41 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support HB 83

Dear Representative Kito,

I strongly support HB 83, pension security. Were it not for my State pension, I would be woefully unprepared for the future. This is making all the difference and I would like others to have the same security that I have been fortunate to have.

Please support this bill.

Lynda Giguere
Douglas, Alaska

Dear Legislators –

I am writing to you today to express my opinion on HB 83 (Pension Choice). I started my state employment in 2010 with the Department of Corrections. As I am sure you are aware, this department has always had issues with recruitment and retention. In 2012 I transferred to Goose Creek and began training new Officers by the dozens. Now that these Officers are becoming vested, we are experiencing a mass exodus. Simply put, they are or will soon be, leaving state employment and taking their retirement with them. When they do, not only does the state have to pay out that money but we lose valuable staff and the tremendous amount of money spent training them. We then have to repeat the cycle again with another new hire. When I talk with the staff leaving they state that there is no incentive to stay with the state until retirement. They have opportunities to work elsewhere and do so. Many of them go to work on the slope and some of them take their money and leave state.

On a more personal note, I appreciate my employment with the State of Alaska but I agree with the people that are leaving. I am not a fan of the 401k style of retirement. It leaves too much to chance once I am ready to retire. I work in a difficult field under difficult conditions to say the least. On average, law enforcement personnel have an average lifespan of nearly twelve years less than the average US citizen. To me, this means that upon retirement I need to ensure I have provided for my family once I am gone. I cannot be sure that a 401k will get them through. With a pension system, I would have the comfort of knowing that my wife can continue to live a good life and enjoy the benefits that I worked so hard for. With that being said, the only reason I am still employed by the state and quite frankly in Alaska at all is due to my daughter still being in High School. It is my intention, once she graduates next school year, to take the money I have earned and leave Alaska. I will be going back into Corrections/Law Enforcement in another state. The biggest decision as to where will depend on retirement and benefits. I have risen to the rank of a Correctional Supervisor (Supervisory). I have done this through hard work and sacrifice. I will not feel bad about taking my money elsewhere. I can take my training that I received here and put it to use for another state of agency.

My wife is a state employee as well. Obviously when I go, so will she. When we do leave, please know that it is simply due to retirement benefits. Together we will have over \$300,000 to take with us. I am sure that seems like a pittance to you but we are just one family. We will no longer be State of Alaska employees, the state will no longer benefit from the training that they have provided us as employees, our local stores and business will no longer receive our money, our borough will no longer receive our property taxes. There is a trickledown effect as you can see and it is in my case and many others simply because there is not enough assurance in retirement from state service.

In closing, I ask that you consider HB 83. I ask that you put aside partisan politics and do what is right for Alaskan workers. The last thing that this state needs now is more of our young families leaving. I am a lifelong Alaskan and it saddens me to think about living somewhere else but I have to do what is right for my family's future.

Respectfully,

Steven S. Yarnot

4882 N Flintstone Cir

Wasilla, AK 99654

yarnots@gmail.com

907-947-6162

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 4:42:37 PM

From: jim&julie [mailto:julieandjim@aptalaska.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 4:37 PM
To: Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>
Subject: HB 83

I would urge you to support HB 83. Such a bill is designed to help maintain a high level of quality in the State work force. This bill should provide an option for employees and potential employees who look into the offered benefits. Giving an employee the option to invest in their own future might help both themselves and the administration.

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 5:08:53 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Joel Dolphin [<mailto:alaskanveteran@gmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 5:00 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representatives,

Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

I strongly support HB 83.

Thanks,
Joel

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 4:43:04 PM

From: Mike Dooley [mailto:mikedooleyak@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 3:59 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 83

Dear Legislators,

I am writing to you to express my support of HB 83; and, to ask you to support it also. Aside from the economic savings illustrated in the actuarial study, the bill would help to recruit and retain qualified State employees.

Here are two examples:

I personally know of two former State of Alaska employees that have left state service and moved out of state to seek employment that provides for a more stable retirement. Their decision to move was strictly economic. The State of Alaska's current Tier IV retirement plan does not provide for a stable retirement and was the direct reason for their departure.

Furthermore, I was self employed in the private sector before I came to work for the State, six and one half years ago. As a State of Alaska employee, I work in the same profession as I did in the private sector. Although I make less money for the State as I did in the private sector, the value added by paid medical benefits played a big role in my decision to come work for the State. However, the 401K retirement plan offered to me by the State did not play a big role in my decision. Although the security of medical benefits got me here, it has always been my plan to leave state employment once my kids "left the nest." However, if I had the choice of enrolling in a pension plan as outlined in HB 83, it would, at the very least, deter my decision to leave; and most likely result in a lifelong State of Alaska employee.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael S. Dooley
17318 Teklanika Drive
Eagle River, Alaska 99577



**GENERAL
TEAMSTERS
LOCAL 959
STATE OF ALASKA**

Affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters
Rick Boyles, Secretary-Treasurer
520 E. 34th Ave., Suite 102, Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Phone (907) 751-8501 • Fax (907) 751-8599

February 15, 2018

Honorable Sam Kito
Representative (Chair Labor & Commerce)
Alaska State Capitol
State Capitol Room 403
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Re: House Bill 83 – Pension Choice

Dear Representative Kito:

On behalf of our Teamster-Represented members that work for the Anchorage School district and the Municipality of Anchorage, we want to thank you for introducing HB 83. This bill, as we understand, provides a choice for newly hired public employees. Under HB 83 employees may choose either the current Defined Contribution Plan or a Defined Benefit Plan (PERS Tier V & TRS Tier IV).

Public employees who decide to invest in public employment should have the ability to choose a Defined Benefit Plan, which takes many years to earn but provides stability as they prepare for retirement twenty five (25) plus years down the road. For those public employees who have an interest in moving from employer to employer, they would have the option of a Defined Contribution plan which is more fluid and has no guaranteed monthly benefit pay outs.

As you are aware, it is very expensive to train and retrain employees. We believe this legislation will provide a more stable workforce for public employers. Providing a Defined Benefit plan will encourage those interested to invest in their employment with their public employer. There are many departments within the Anchorage School District and the Municipality of Anchorage that are experiencing a huge turnover in employment. Associated with that comes the cost of retraining as mentioned above. Public employment in Alaska has essentially become a training ground for employees to get experience and then move on to a more stable employment elsewhere.

On behalf of not only our Teamster Public Employees but all Public employees, we thank you for introducing HB 83 and support your efforts to pass this legislation.

Sincerely

Barbara Huff
Director Government and Legislative Affairs

BHT:jk

From: Andrea Minter
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 6:39:10 PM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Dear Legislator,

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Andrea Minter
50153 Coye Ct.
Kenai, AK 99611

From: Philip Templin
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 6:57:22 PM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

From: Bruce, George I (DPS)
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 7:06:01 PM

Hello Representative--I gather that you are on a committee concerning HB 83. Please support this one...Talking to the Old Guard state employees, virtually all of them remained with the state because of the benefits of Tier I. I realize cuts are still looming, but to maintain/retain the core employees of this state, this Bill is a necessity. Thanks for listening. Sincerely,
George Ian Bruce

From: Susan Maley
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Please support Alaskan's-Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 8:40:34 PM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83. We need your support.

Thank you,

Susan Maley

From: Stacey Johnson
Subject: Support HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 10:27:53 PM

Dear Legislator,

As an individual who has been in Alaska public service as a former classroom teacher (5.5 years) and current forensic scientist (9 years) at the state crime lab, I urge you to support HB 83.

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

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Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Stacey Johnson
21942 Rebecca Circle
Chugiak, AK 99567
(907) 688-3696

From: Amber Schlesinger
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 11:08:39 PM

Hello Representative--

I am contacting you in support of HB 83. I began working for the State of Alaska in 2014, and am disappointed that my contributions to my retirement plan are not defined. Having a defined benefit plan will benefit the state of Alaska, as well as the valuable employees that serve citizens on a daily basis.

Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Please vote yes.

Amber Schlesinger
99701

From: Home
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Please Support HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 11:19:26 PM

RE: House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Dear Representatives,

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. Too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tracy Reno
areno@gci.net

From: Sarah Wilber
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Friday, February 16, 2018 8:21:20 AM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Sincerely,

Sarah Wilber
649 East Beaver Ave
Palmer, AK 99645

Sent from my iPhone

From: P V Brown-McMillan
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Friday, February 16, 2018 9:38:58 AM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

P V Brown-McMillan
6731 Gloucester Pl
Anchorage, AK 99504

From: Philip and Bonnie Templin
To: [Rep. Sam Kite](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 5:45:04 PM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

From: maryclaire bernstein
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#)
Subject: SUPPORT for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 6:11:45 PM

I am a resident of Juneau. I support retirement security and urge you to pass HB 83. We need to invest in the quality of life in Alaska, and we can't attract and keep good workers if we don't have a good retirement system. Although it isn't as apparent as garbage that isn't collected, or a lack of electricity, having the right people at the University, in the state office building, etc. makes a huge difference. If we don't invest in quality, Alaska will be a wasteland in the future.

Thank you for representing me.

Mary-Claire

Mary-Claire Bernstein
1890 Glacier Ave. #204
Juneau, AK

From: Angela Hunt
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 6:33:46 PM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,
Angela Hunt

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Edric Carrillo](#)
To: [Caitlyn Ellis](#)
Subject: FW: ASEA HB 83 Pension Legislation:
Date: Friday, February 16, 2018 9:13:05 AM

From: pdkea@aim.com [mailto:pdkea@aim.com]

Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 5:21 PM

To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>

Subject: ASEA HB 83 Pension Legislation:

February 15, 2018

Dear Legislator,

Ever since the meeting of financiers and Treasury representatives in November, 1910, on Jekyll Island off the coast of Georgia, the United States has had over a century of economic development unknown to our history. With the creation of the Federal Reserve in 1913 under the administration of Woodrow Wilson, our fiscal operations and currency were centralized at the national level. During this last century of development, our economy has experienced great prosperity—but also great volatility. The very nature of our monetary policy under the fractional reserve system has given rise to periodic bubbles that routinely burst, causing devastating loss and hardship to citizens all across America. Our leaders periodically review the establishment of our currency and monetary policy to ensure proper oversight, such as with the Pujo Committee, the Pecora Commission, and *United States vs. Morgan (1953)*. Even so, the tiered structure of our finances and retirement systems has been predicated on the future value of our people. As inflation slowly depreciates our fiduciary configuration, our descendants will have to manage the fallout of our current economic decisions. By placing value back into our people instead of extracting it out for diverse purposes, we can ensure the future stability of our economy, our constituency, and our state.

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money. This defined benefit pension system will stabilize our workforce and aid in opening future investment in Alaska's industries.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees, and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Additional resources:

https://www.google.com/search?source=hp&ei=vOaFWv6xFN2qjOPJi4qABA&q=Pujo+Committee&oq=Pujo+Committee&gs_l=psy-ab..0l2j0i22i30k1l2j0i22i10i30k1.3745716.3745716.0.3746372.1.1.0.0.0.428.428.4-1.1.0....0...1c.1.64.psy-ab..0.1.427....0.FT3GohxYSEU

https://www.google.com/search?source=hp&ei=gTuGWorqIcu4jwOliqqoDw&q=Pecora+Commission&oq=Pecora+Commission&gs_l=psy-ab..0l2j0i22i30k1l6.1567.1567.0.2640.1.1.0.0.0.121.121.0j1.1.0....0...1c.1.64.psy-ab..0.1.120....0.mhDIP4ac_ac

https://www.google.com/search?ei=hDuGwGqHQMl3kjwOLl4PYBA&q=United+States+v.+Morgan+%281953%29&oq=United+States+v.+Morgan+%281953%29&gs_l=psy-

[ab.3..33i22i29i30k1l2.21133.21133.0.21946.1.1.0.0.0.142.142.0j1.1.0...0...1c.1.64.psy-ab..0.1.142...0_aDQ6G9j6T4](https://www.google.com/search?ei=DzuGWrGtK5CSjwPrtKuYAg&q=jekyll+island&oq=jekyll+&gs_l=psy-ab..0.7.693...0i67k1.0.R9MbTXhefTA)

[https://www.google.com/search?ei=DzuGWrGtK5CSjwPrtKuYAg&q=jekyll+island&oq=jekyll+&gs_l=psy-ab.1.0.0i131k1j0l4j0i131k1l2j0l3.162935.164430.0.166230.7.5.0.2.2.0.143.626.0j5.5.0...0...1c.1.64.psy-ab..0.7.693...0i67k1.0.R9MbTXhefTA](https://www.google.com/search?ei=tjuGWSsKNJOCjwOF4q-wCQ&q=fractional+reserve+banking&oq=fractiona&gs_l=psy-ab..0.7.693...0i67k1.0.R9MbTXhefTA)

[https://www.google.com/search?ei=tjuGWSsKNJOCjwOF4q-wCQ&q=fractional+reserve+banking&oq=fractiona&gs_l=psy-ab.1.0.0i67k1j0j0i131k1j0l7.385248.386536.0.388477.9.9.0.0.0.0.215.1039.0j6j1.7.0...0...1c.1.64.psy-ab..2.7.1032...0i3k1j0i131i67k1.0.ETSsbtvwr_g](https://www.google.com/search?ei=tjuGWSsKNJOCjwOF4q-wCQ&q=fractional+reserve+banking&oq=fractiona&gs_l=psy-ab..2.7.1032...0i3k1j0i131i67k1.0.ETSsbtvwr_g)

Sincerely,

Paul Keller

OA II

SOA-DCCED-DCRA

From: Todd Anderson
To: [House Labor and Commerce](#)
Subject: HB 83
Date: Friday, February 16, 2018 10:23:06 AM

Greetings,

My name is Todd Anderson and I have been a state employee for the past 10 years. I am in Tier IV retirement and am in full support of the adoption of HB 83 for several reasons that should matter to all Alaskan's within my community.

As a Tier IV member I have known from the very beginning of my service with the State that I was different than my colleagues that all of which have a secure future knowing that they will not run out of funds in retirement. I have continually had to make choices to save instead of spend a bit more freely within my local economy. If my future were secure, a larger home and solid roots would be planted within my community for the next 20 years and very likely afterward. As things stand now under the Defined Contribution plan I have already decided that I would likely be unable to afford a retirement in Alaska and it would be mandatory for me to relocated to a more affordable area of the country.

This bill directly impacts 5 people in my household that would be able to remain in my Alaska community and set solid roots here. As a person in Tier 4 my only incentive in remaining with the State is to cover an additional 10% of my health coverage from the age of 58 to 65 for each decade of service with the state. This incentive is not enough for me to remain with the State knowing we have been without the State offering a cost of living increase in about a decade, including current negotiations. Communities in Alaska suffer from the loss of quality state employees remaining and spending within their communities. Please consider this bill which would all employees the opportunity to make an informed decision and put state employees on an equal footing. Thank you for your consideration, Todd Anderson

From: Wendy Hansen
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Friday, February 16, 2018 12:47:52 PM

Hello Representatives,

My name is Wendy Hansen. I am writing in support of HB83. HB83 provides for cost savings to the state while offering a defined benefit and improved health benefits to current and prospective employees.

Thank you for the consideration.

Wendy Hansen
13711 Vern Drive
Anchorage, AK 99516

Sent from my iPhone

From: Andrea Mogil
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Friday, February 16, 2018 12:29:01 PM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

The defined benefit plan option for Tier IV PERS and Tier III TRS employees offers pronounced advantages in that it offers greater certainty and security for retirees, and in some instances a financial advantage as well. These factors act as strong incentives to attract the highest caliber of employees to PERS and TRS positions, as well as to encourage longevity in experienced employees who can more easily develop and pass on institutional knowledge and provide a higher level of service to Alaskans. Lower turnover in turn results in lower personnel costs to PERS and TRS employers.

The defined benefit option looks like a win-win-win for Alaska residents, PERS and TRS retirement systems, and PERS and TRS employees. Please support this measure.

Thank you for your interest and hard work.
-Andrea Mogil, Juneau

Sent from my iPad

From: Jerry McBeath
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: HB 83
Date: Friday, February 16, 2018 2:12:41 PM

Dear Representatives Kito, Wool, Josephson, Stutes, Birch, Knopp, and Leonard:

I write in support of HB 83, which is under consideration in your committee. Permit me to illustrate why new employees of state agencies (and the University of Alaska) would gain from a retirement program offering them choice.

In 1976 I accepted a job offer from the University of Alaska in Fairbanks because the benefits program was superior to that offered by most other American universities (including the City University of New York where I was then employed). Those were tough years for the state, before completion of the pipeline in 1977 and the flow of oil began. The benefits program in effect then was designed to attract people with excellent credentials to Alaska and encourage them to remain throughout their careers. It certainly worked in my case (my degrees were from the University of Chicago and the University of California Berkeley) as I became a highly productive member of the UAF faculty and worked 38 years until my retirement in mid-2014.

During my employment I observed the effects of changes in the benefit program, particularly the pension system, on the morale and stability of the faculty. Especially damaging in my view was the development of an optional retirement program (ORP, a modified 401-k program) in the early 1990s. Colleagues complained about confusion concerning pension alternatives, and their lack of clear choice between ORP and any version of a defined benefits plan. All of the colleagues who entered the UA system at that time registered for ORP, and this became a negative factor in their morale. When they accepted job offers from other universities, the lack of an option to have subscribed to a defined benefits pension system was a factor they mentioned to me as a reason to leave Alaska.

I hope you will give serious consideration to restoring to new employees a clear choice between a defined contribution plan and a defined benefit plan.

Best wishes to you in the important work of the Alaska Legislature this session; sincerely,
Jerry McBeath, Professor of Political Science Emeritus, U. of Alaska Fairbanks.

From: Tammy Smith
To: [Rep. Sam Kite](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Friday, February 16, 2018 3:30:11 PM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Thank you,

Tammy Smith

From: Chandra McGee
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Friday, February 16, 2018 3:19:53 PM

Hello Representative--

Please support HB 83. As a public employee, and lifelong Alaska, the movement of this bill would be very important to my family.

Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Thank you for your support.

Chandra McGee

2011 Weston Dr
Fairbanks, AK 99709
907-750-8590

From: J F
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Friday, February 16, 2018 1:28:00 PM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

This letter may look familiar because it is borrowed. While I do not have the time to draft an original for myself, this is a subject of great interest that concerns me and does require the attention I can give to it to respond.

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jeanne Frazier
P.O. Box 242863
Anchorage, Alaska 99524

From: Nina Corbett
To: [House Labor and Commerce](#)
Cc: njcorbett@gmail.com
Subject: Dear House and Labor Committee,
Date: Saturday, February 17, 2018 8:03:20 AM

Dear House and Labor Committee,

I'm relatively new to SOA as an Employee, however I have a life long tie with indigenous heritage to Bristol Bay. My request for you to move HB83 forward is largely for the long term security it can offer my family. I'm confident you see the facts being provided and they meet the common sense threshold. Besides the best interest of my family; I have seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits. I have been tempted myself.

This is important and beneficial,
Nina Corbett
946 Emperor Way
PO Box 1216
Dillingham

Sent from my iPad

From: brie lee
To: [House Labor and Commerce](#)
Subject: Support of HB83
Date: Saturday, February 17, 2018 7:48:12 PM

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Brianna McGrath. I work at the Dutch Harbor Fish and Game office in Commercial Fisheries. I am a Tier IV employee and I support HB83. I have only worked for the State for two months, and in that time I have noticed that the turnover rate with the State is relatively high. I am somewhat surprised, considering working for the state is pretty sought after. However, I do believe it has to do with a lack of security for employees as they understand that they may outlive their retirement. Our economy is bad now. What will happen when this generation and future generations retire and have no money to spend to keep the economy thriving? Pensions would help the economy substantially. Businesses would see boosts in profit and be able to expand. With no money coming in after retirement, no money will go out. Therefore, pensions are a win-win for employees, employers, tax-payers and local businesses. Thank you for your time and consideration!

Sincerely,
Brianna McGrath

To whom it may concern:

My name is Eric Hoffman. I am currently a police officer with the Juneau Police Department, and a former officer with the Fairbanks Police Department. Before I begin it's important to note that while I'm employed by JPD, the message I am presenting is mine and mine alone, and not a representation for the department.

I would like to thank you for allowing me to speak today, and it is my hope to bring to light one of the major obstacles that the law enforcement community in Alaska is currently facing.

Budget deficits and opioids have dominated political conversation for some time, and with good reason. Make no mistake though; Alaska is experiencing a public safety staffing crisis.

The National Institute on Retirement Security recently completed a case study titled, "Retirement Reform Lessons: The Experience of Palm Beach Public Safety Pensions." This case study examined what happened in Palm Beach, Florida after the city got rid of pensions in favor of 401(k) plans. The study proved to be a cautionary tale, and found that dismantling the pension:

- Instantly caused a mass exodus of public safety employees that did not stop until the city reestablished a defined benefit retirement.
- Actually benefited neighboring towns and states with better retirements that absorbed Palm Beach's experienced employees.
- Caused city expenses to skyrocket because of unanticipated costs such as recruitment and training.

At the worst of the city's staffing crisis, more than "60% of employees had less than three years of service." Moving to a defined contribution retirement was such a failure that the city reestablished the pension after four years. In conclusion, the researchers found that state and local governments cannot easily replace the experience of seasoned public safety workers, and cutting costs through pensions can put our public safety at risk.

If you replaced the words Palm Beach with Anchorage, Fairbanks, or Juneau, this case study would be about us.

The study does go on to reference a report from the Alaska Department of Public Safety to the State legislature in 2017, which says the defined contribution plan acts as a barrier to attracting and drives up attrition among state troopers. While this report was from DPS, I can attest that municipal agencies in Alaska are experiencing the same problem.

If you talk to front line officers and supervisors from any major agency you will hear a common theme; they are too understaffed to keep up with crime in 2018. Between significant rises in property crime and Tier 4 retirement, there are simply not enough cops on the street to handle the massive influx of calls for service, and everyday Alaskans are paying the price.

Besides community and department ties, there is currently nothing to encourage an Alaskan peace officer to remain here. It's an all too common story for an officer to be hired, jump through all the hoops and get all the necessary training, only to leave the state after two or three years with all the experience they gained. This is a tremendous disservice to Alaskans, and it's a problem that could largely be solved tomorrow with a defined benefit retirement plan.

In the five years I have been a police officer, I have seen crime rise by as much as 100% in some communities. If this wasn't enough, Alaska is consistently one of the most violent and crime ridden states in the union. It's time for the Legislature to take action to provide security for its citizens. What you can do right now to provide a better staffed and experienced law enforcement presence throughout Alaska is to re-establish a defined benefit retirement.

We are all Alaskans who care about our state and its people. While I'm speaking today in encouragement of an improved retirement system, I hope you take my words to heart and see that drastic action needs to be taken to improve the safety of your constituents.

From: George Gress
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#)
Subject: Support Defined Benefits
Date: Saturday, February 17, 2018 9:24:09 AM

As a retired teacher, every day I think of the advantages of the Defined Benefits plan that I worked under as a Tier 1 employee. It is a much safer way to gain retirement benefits, especially since teachers aren't paid enough to guarantee retirement income in addition to living expenses. I'm sure you have seen the evidence that teachers under the new plan are having uneven gains in their investments, and that teachers are leaving the state as soon as they can under the new plan. Thank you for sponsoring this bill, and good luck.

George Gress
GGress Custom Guitars
1-907-209-9563
www.GGress.com

From: Lorraine Kastner
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](mailto:Rep.Sam.Kito); [Rep. Adam Wool@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov); [Rep. Andy Josephson](mailto:Rep.Andy.Josephson); [Rep. Louise Stutes](mailto:Rep.Louise.Stutes); [Rep. Chris Birch](mailto:Rep.Chris.Birch); [Rep. Gary Knopp](mailto:Rep.Gary.Knopp); [Rep. Collen Sullivan.Leonard@akleg.gov](mailto:Rep.Collen.Sullivan.Leonard@akleg.gov)
Cc: Johnson@akleg.gov
Subject: HB 83 = Define Benefits = Please Pass!
Date: Saturday, February 17, 2018 10:10:50 AM

Dear Legislator,

Thank-you for all your hard work on balancing the state budget and developing a long term fiscal plan. There is one key element that is critical to every private or public company or corporation to be successful; that critical element is quality employees that are committed to successfully performing their jobs. This critical element applies to state government equally.

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

I personally am a supervisor for the state of Alaska and suffer the challenges of hiring quality employees. Currently I am recruiting for an open position in my section. I had to post the job description three times to finally get a pool of qualified applicants to interview. My hiring panel conducted interviews and scored the applicants first, second, third and so on, in terms of whose was our first choice applicant to off the position too. The position was offered to the first choice applicant, the applicant declined the position; the position was then offered to the second choice applicant, the applicant declined the position; we are current working to get approval to offer the position to the third choice applicant. You maybe be wondering, "What and What", well state employees on the average are paid less then private sector; our wages have been frozen; we have to take two days of leave without pay; our benefit are declining while the cost of those declining benefits are increasing.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Lorraine Kastner
12801 Mountain Place
Anchorage, AK 99516
(P.O. Box 240051, Anchorage, AK 99524)
lorrainekastner@aol.com

DON'T USE YOUR STATE/EMPLOYER EMAIL ADDRESS

From: pstark@mosquionet.com
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#)
Subject: HB83
Date: Saturday, February 17, 2018 8:30:46 PM

Please support this bill. We went from a state with the best retirement system to one of the worst. We cannot recruit and retain good workers without a good retirement system. Having a Defined Benefit option will establish a stronger commitment by workers. Please support this bill.

Patricia Stark
P.O. Box 82525
Fairbanks, AK 99708

From: Ellen Scott
To: [Rep. Chris Tuck](#); [Rep. Justin Parish](#); [Rep. Geran Tarr](#); [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux](#)
Subject: HB 83--Supportive
Date: Saturday, February 17, 2018 3:59:34 PM

Good Afternoon,

I am writing you all to share with you my support for HB 83 regarding the Teachers & Public Employee's Retirement System. I am a tier two teacher, and I work with numerous tier three teachers. In my opinion, HB 83 does work to alleviate some of the major issues regarding the current tier three retirement system. I have seen numerous talented teachers leave after serving five years due directly to the lack of retirement security the state currently offers. The current tier three system does not provide adequate security to our newest TRS and PERS employees; this bill directly addresses this. Moreover, a strong retirement system attracts and retains employees. Right now, Alaska offers one of the worst, if not the worst, retirement benefit packages to new hires; HB 83 rectifies this.

Thank you for your service and consideration. Please let me know how I can assist with the passage of this HB.

Ellen Z Scott

[907-351-3774](tel:907-351-3774)

12301 Ginami Street

Anchorage, AK 99516

From: Martin, Leimomi E (DOL)
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Saturday, February 17, 2018 9:09:24 AM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Leimomi Martin

From: Anna Breuninger
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Sunday, February 18, 2018 2:48:34 PM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

I support HB 83 for a number of reasons. Firstly, not having a defined benefit available to State workers has resulted in constant turnover. Young college graduates use the State for a year or two to get the experience they need to work in the much more lucrative private sector. As senior employees retire, the State is losing institutional knowledge as well as "job trainers" for the young short time employees. This situation along with less and less funding from the State and Federal governments is going to lead to a complete breakdown in functionality of the State. And secondly, a defined benefit is the carrot that keeps people working for the State. It appears to me that only a warm body is required to be employed at the State rather than experienced staff. The State pays much less than the private sector and the defined benefit makes up for that discrepancy. Private sector workers have more income to invest in retirement than State workers.

Thank you for working on this bill and others too. You too serve the State and I appreciate your hard work in the legislature.

Sincerely, Anna Breuninger
Sent from my iPhone

From: tecorub
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Friday, February 16, 2018 11:57:08 AM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

From: William Kane
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Friday, February 16, 2018 11:57:48 AM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Dear Legislator,

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

Finally, all Alaskans deserve a dignified and stable retirement. This bill offers a predictable retirement for current and future public employees establishing their careers working for the State of Alaska.

Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

William Kane
Kodiak, AK 99615
763.438.0238

Sent from [Outlook](#)

From: Emily Tiller
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: HB 83 - Restore a Defined Benefit retirement system
Date: Friday, February 16, 2018 12:06:17 PM

Dear House Labor & Commerce Committee Members,

HB 83 is very important for State employees such as myself. Restoring a Defined Benefit is not only more secure of an option for the State of Alaska and its delicate fiscal position, but it's also safer option for our public servants. While not all new employees would opt for the choice to enroll, the one-time option would be a strong compromise and would help encourage public servants to continue their roles as security is maintained while working toward retirement. To support that this is a good choice for the State of Alaska, please see the studies below which support the fiscal side of approving the bill.

http://www.akleg.gov/basis/get_documents.asp?session=29&docid=53371

http://www.afscmelocal52.org/asea-files/Fornia_2016_AK_Pension_Option_Review.pdf

Thank you for your time and consideration

Emily Tiller

1235 W. Mike St.

Palmer AK 99645

907-575-8048

From: alan munro
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#)
Subject: Labor/pension
Date: Thursday, February 15, 2018 3:37:08 PM

Support retirement security by passing HB 83



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www.avast.com

KENAI LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION OFFICE

Email: Kenai_LIO@akleg.gov

Phone: 907-283-2030 / Fax: 907-283-3075

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

NAME: David Brighton
REPRESENTING: Self / Teacher
BILL # or SUBJECT: HB 83
COMMITTEE: House Labor & Commerce **DATE:** 2-17-18

Dear Representatives,

I am a father of three students and a teacher of 10 years in Alaska. Sadly, that means I am among the first educators to be in TRS 3. I love this state and I've greatly enjoyed working with students in our great state. I came to Alaska as a young and inexperienced teacher, and through collaboration and professional development I have grown in my profession.

If I had come a year earlier and been in TRS 2 I would never consider leaving the state. However, I am fully vested in the defined contribution already and my wife and I have had conversations recently about the benefits of moving to the lower 48 where I can benefit from a pension. This is compounded by the fact that I am not a part of the social security program.

While looking at my quarterly retirement report a few weeks ago I realized that after 10 years of service I can comfortably retire about 3-4 years before I die... I have to calculate it this way because when my retirement account is gone I have no other retirement income. I understand the fiscal reality the state is facing but I beg you to take action! The current TRS 3 retirement system encourages teachers to get a few years experience during their "Alaskan Adventure" and then leave the state for a better benefits package. Please stop the brain drain and offer our public employees a more dignified retirement.

Thank You,

David

From: DJoelozzy .
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 1:01:56 PM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

Aside from the economics, HB 83 establishes a pension option that meets Alaska's immediate need to recruit and retain qualified employees. Once hired, employees have an incentive to stay under HB 83. We've seen too many people receive training by the State of Alaska only to leave for a job with better pay and benefits.

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Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Joel Osburn
PO Box 210612
Auke Bay, AK 99821

From: Vicky Armstrong
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 9:29:58 AM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

From: Brian Clausson
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: Support for HB 83
Date: Monday, February 19, 2018 3:04:49 PM

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

This bill is very important to me and is my #1 issue this year and every year. Please support the bill!

I live at 8608 Sprucebrook Street in Anchorage.

From: Ronald Johnson
To: [Rep. Sam Kito](#); [Rep. Adam Wool](#); [Rep. Andy Josephson](#); [Rep. Louise Stutes](#); [Rep. Chris Birch](#); [Rep. Gary Knopp](#); [Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard](#)
Subject: HB 83
Date: Friday, February 16, 2018 5:32:16 PM

House L & C:

My testimony re HB 83.

HB 83 would allow new folks a chance to have a DB retirement plan.

A critical issue is the assumed ROR as this determines how much the state and the employees have to contribute. The lower the assumed ROR, the more each employee will be required to contribute into his/her retirement.

TRS/PERS is already stuck w my retirement no matter what ROR is assumed. No matter what ROR is assumed, the actual UL will not change. Not true for new folks. To provide a secure retirement for them, it is important to structure HB 83 with a prudent ROR.

If 8 % is assumed and the real return is, say, 7 %, the passage of HB 83 will add many \$ B to the unfunded liability [UL.] This would have a severe negative effect on PERS and TRS.

Senate Finance had a 90 minute session this week regarding PERS/TRS. They are very concerned about the ability of Alaska to make the future annual payments [exceeding \$ 500 M] toward the UL [referred to it as the elephant in the room]

The AkPF assumes a ROR < 7 % and Callan is recommending to the ARMB that it lower the ROR to < 7 %.

European public and world corporate pension funds assume RORs closer to 6 %.

The ARMB will vote on its assumed forward ROR this June.

I realize ADMIN will not do a fiscal analysis until HB 83 clears the house or at least the Finance Committee. Hence, it is impossible for anyone to know now what each employee needs to contribute [I believe HB 83 sets it at 8 %].

If you move this bill out of committee, I urge you to express these concerns.

--

Ron Johnson
Professor Emeritus
Mechanical and Environmental Engineering
Univ of Alaska Fairbanks

2113 Jack St
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Edric Carrillo

From: alan munro <armunro@gci.net>
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 3:37 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito
Subject: Labor/pension

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Support retirement security by passing HB 83



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

Edric Carrillo

From: Ellen Scott <akfireball@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 17, 2018 3:59 PM
To: Rep. Chris Tuck; Rep. Justin Parish; Rep. Geran Tarr; Rep. Sam Kito; Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux
Subject: HB 83--Supportive

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Good Afternoon,

I am writing you all to share with you my support for HB 83 regarding the Teachers & Public Employee's Retirement System. I am a tier two teacher, and I work with numerous tier three teachers. In my opinion, HB 83 does work to alleviate some of the major issues regarding the current tier three retirement system. I have seen numerous talented teachers leave after serving five years due directly to the lack of retirement security the state currently offers. The current tier three system does not provide adequate security to our newest TRS and PERS employees; this bill directly addresses this. Moreover, a strong retirement system attracts and retains employees. Right now, Alaska offers one of the worst, if not the worst, retirement benefit packages to new hires; HB 83 rectifies this.

Thank you for your service and consideration. Please let me know how I can assist with the passage of this HB.

Ellen Z Scott
[907-351-3774](tel:907-351-3774)
12301 Ginami Street
Anchorage, AK 99516

Edric Carrillo

From: Edric Carrillo
Sent: Thursday, March 1, 2018 2:01 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito
Subject: RE: Support for HB 83

From: Grace Germain [<mailto:gmgermain@att.net>]
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 12:06 AM
To: Rep. Sam Kito <Rep.Sam.Kito@akleg.gov>; Rep. Adam Wool <Rep.Adam.Wool@akleg.gov>; Rep. Andy Josephson <Rep.Andy.Josephson@akleg.gov>; Rep. Louise Stutes <Rep.Louise.Stutes@akleg.gov>; Rep. Chris Birch <Rep.Chris.Birch@akleg.gov>; Rep. Gary Knopp <Rep.Gary.Knopp@akleg.gov>; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard <Rep.Colleen.Sullivan-Leonard@akleg.gov>
Subject: Support for HB 83

Dear Legislator,

Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

The State of Alaska lacks a competitive and dignified retirement for public employees building a career around service to their fellow Alaskans. HB 83 offers a new defined benefit retirement option to new and existing employees, and an actuarial study of similar legislation showed it would save the state money.

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Providing a pension retirement option has measurable returns for both employer and employee, as well as delivering stability and continuity in state services to all Alaskans.

Please SUPPORT HB 83 and its many benefits for employers, employees and the public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Grace M. Germain, State of Alaska Employee
329 E. 14th Avenue #9, Anchorage, AK 99501

Edric Carrillo

From: susanhubbard <shubbardslq@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 26, 2018 10:22 PM
To: Rep. Bryce Edgmon; Rep. Sam Kito; Rep. Adam Wool; Rep. Andy Josephson; Rep. Louise Stutes; Rep. Chris Birch; Rep. Gary Knopp; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard
Subject: Support HB 83

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Please support retirement security by passing HB 83 which gives new employees a choice between the current Defined Contribution Plan (401-K style) or by providing a modest Defined Benefit Plan (PERS Tier V and TRS Tier IV).

Respectfully,
Susan Hubbard
PO Box 33
Sleetmute, AK

Edric Carrillo

From: Tammy Smith <tlsmith424@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 16, 2018 3:30 PM
To: Rep. Sam Kito; Rep. Adam Wool; Rep. Andy Josephson; Rep. Louise Stutes; Rep. Chris Birch; Rep. Gary Knopp; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard
Subject: Support for HB 83

Hello Representative--Your work is important and that's why I'm contacting you about the House Labor and Commerce Committee's support for the public employee Defined Benefit retirement bill HB 83.

Thank you,

Tammy Smith

Edric Carrillo

From: Tricen Headings <tricenheadings@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 21, 2018 10:06 AM
To: Rep. Sam Kito
Subject: HB 83

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

hello,

I'm very thankful to you for introducing HB 83. I am a Tier 4 employee in Corrections my current position is a Staff Sergeant at Lemon Creek Correctional Center with almost 9 years of service to this great State I call home. this bill would allow me not to worry about my future and would allow me to put my full attention into serving this great state. I'm curious as to what the next step is in the process and if I can assist in anyway?

Edric Carrillo

From: Johnthomas Williamson <johnthomas.williamson24@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 15, 2018 9:04 AM
To: Rep. Sam Kito; Rep. Adam Wool; Rep. Andy Josephson; Rep. Louise Stutes; Rep. Chris Birch; Rep. Gary Knopp; Rep. Colleen Sullivan-Leonard
Subject: Re: Another HB 83 supporter.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hello, I am a State of Alaska employee, Tier III. Less than two years ago, my coworker and his wife, who was a Tier IV employee, left their State employment to seek job opportunities in Maine. The Tier IV employee was at a Range 25 and has her Juris Doctorate. Neither of these people saw a bright future with working for the State and decided to take action. The move was solely economic, as neither had any connections to Maine. This is just one example of the State loosing high value personnel due to a lack of confidence in long-term stability with the State

HB 83 would help in restoring a confidence that was lost when Tier IV was created.

Johnthomas Williamson

8640 E 10th Ave. Unit B

Anchorage Alaska

Date: February 19, 2018
To: Representative Kito
Subject: PERS Tier IV

Dear Representative Kito,

This letter is in regard to the current retirement system in place for newly hired firefighters starting with the Anchorage Fire Department. I am a Captain with AFD and am fortunate enough to have been employed for almost 18 years. I have instructed at every new hire fire academy the past 16 years. I have had an active part in most of the firefighter's development that were hired after me, and I am professionally and emotionally invested in all of them. Although my concern is for public safety in Alaska as a whole, the direct impact to AFD is what I find most noticeable.

When I tested in 2000, AFD had to rent the Egan Center to accommodate upwards of 800 applicants for the written exam. It was a very competitive process, offering AFD a large pool of qualified candidates to offer jobs. Over the years I have seen the testing pool noticeably diminish to where AFD is lucky to have several hundred applicants. This results in a much narrower hiring pool for AFD. Getting a firefighter hired, through an eight week academy, and a year and a half probation period is a very expensive and labor intensive effort for AFD and the candidate. When and if they do make it off of probation, they are a highly qualified and able employee for AFD. These employees are a very valuable asset to AFD, and (unfortunately) to other outside departments.

It is virtually guaranteed that any firefighter hired under the SOA Tier III retirement system will give the city/ state at least 20 years of service if not 25 years plus. AFD has seen a significant number of highly trained Tier IV employees leave for jobs outside of Alaska the past ten years. Currently there are upwards of 22 Tier IV firefighters that have tested and/ or already left for other departments outside Alaska. As an officer for AFD, I find this very alarming. I need highly trained and experienced firefighters to do my job safely and to provide the best service for the citizens of Anchorage. This proves very difficult when our time is spent training new firefighters because of a high turnover rate of experienced fire fighters leaving AFD for better retirement systems.

As Alaska's largest city and largest fire department, this effects everyone in the state. All Alaska residents eventually pass through here and could potentially need the services of AFD. They deserve the best possible service by the most experienced employee. We can't keep losing our Tier IV firefighters and provide this service. It is costing the tax payers too much money to constantly be replacing our employee pool. Anchorage and Alaska's public safety workers deserve better, as do the constituents. Please fix the retirement to a Defined Benefit System so AFD can attract and retain qualified employees. Thank you for your time.

Mark Stephens

Captain

Anchorage Fire Department

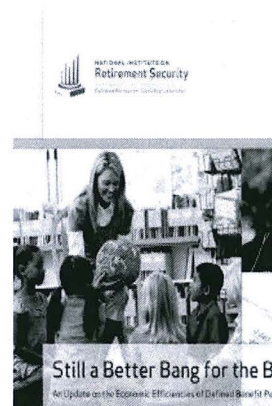
Defined Benefit Retirement Plans and the Public Sector Workforce

Alaska House Labor and Commerce Comm Hearing on February 16, 2018

**Diane Oakley,
Executive Director**

NIRS is a non-profit, nonpartisan
research organization.

www.nirsonline.org



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Retirement Se

Reliable Research. Sensibl

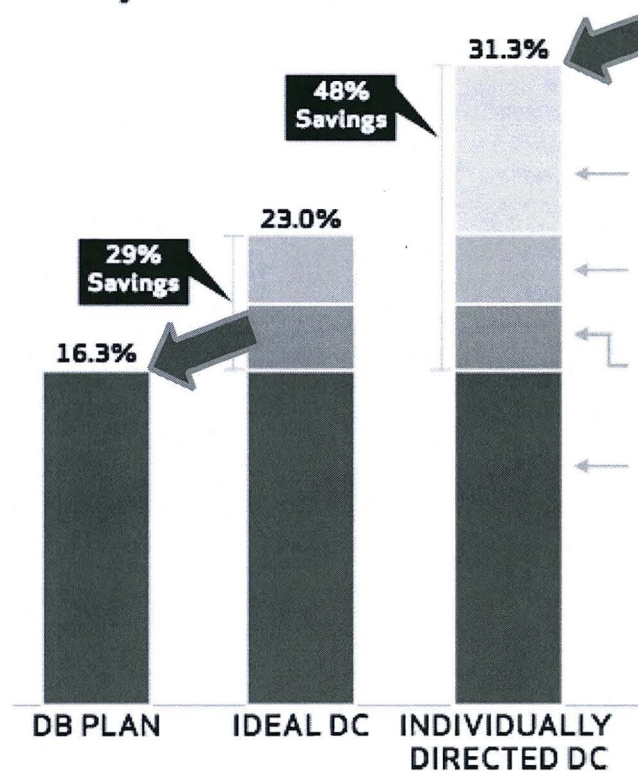
DB Pensions Are Cost Efficient *Still a Better Bang for the Buck*

Cost Comparison

NIRS looked at the cost to replace 53% of final income under three retirement plan structures.

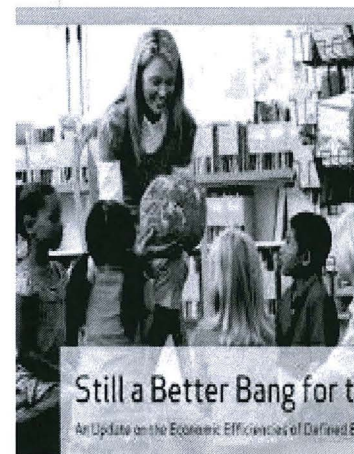
The DB pension cost 48% less than using Individual Accounts in a DC Savings Plan to provide the same amount of income.

Figure 1:
Cost of DB and DC Plans as a Percentage of Payroll



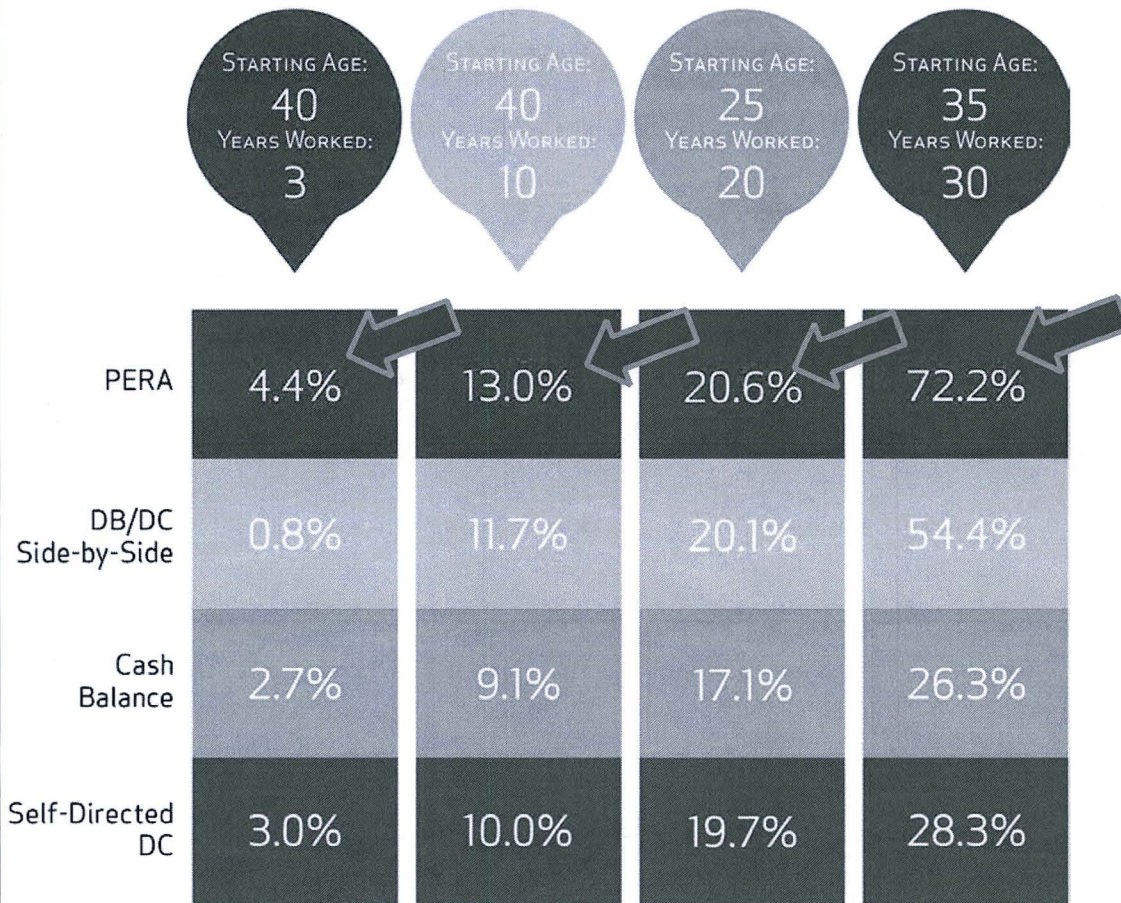
3 Key Reasons Why Defined Benefit Pension (DB) Plans Cost Less than Defined Contribution (DC) Plans

1. Pool the longevity risks.
2. Maintain optimally balanced investment portfolio compared to down-shifting to a lower risk/return asset allocation in DC plan.
3. DB plan have higher investment returns and lower fees compared to individual investors in DC accounts.



Source: *Still a Better Bang for the Buck* available at: <https://www.nirsonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/ban>

Colorado State Auditor: DB Per Higher Income Replacement ov



Defined Pension provides income replacement the same retirement accounts plan.

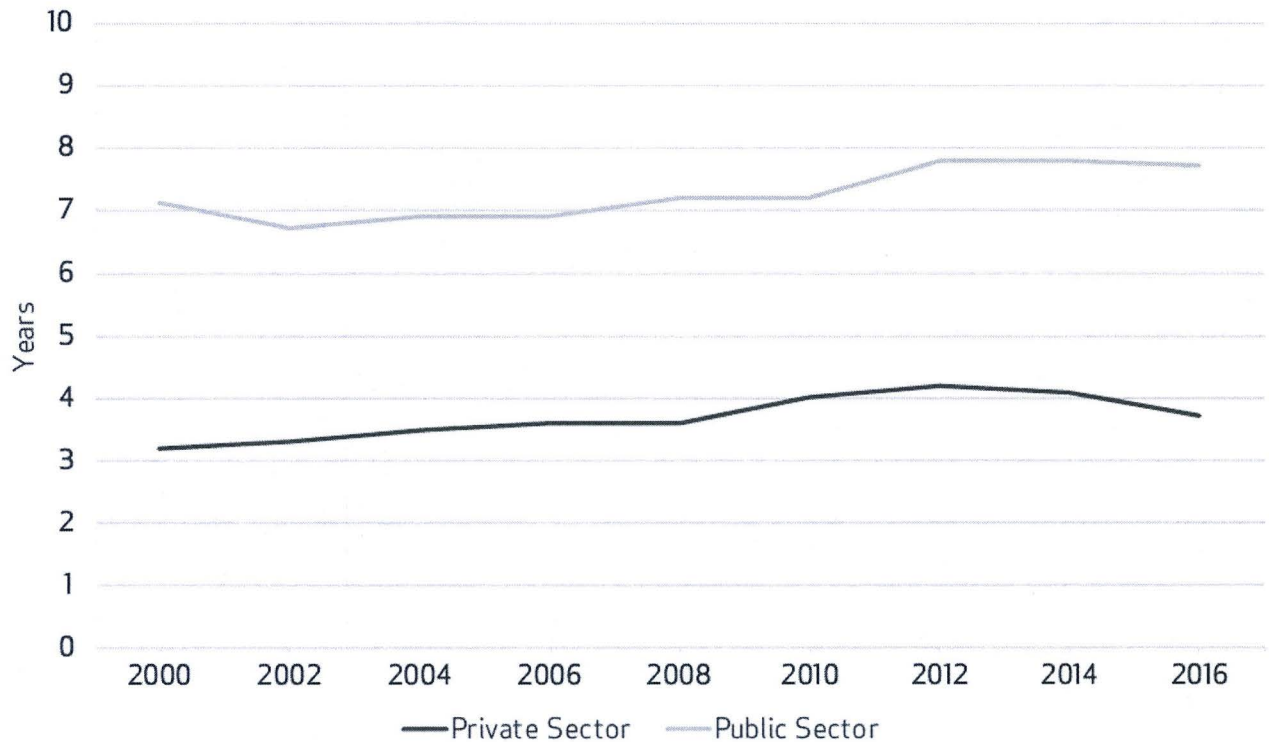


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Retirement

Source: Colorado Public Employee Retirement Association

Different Workforces: Public Sector Job Tenure Twice that of Private Sector

Figure 1: Median Years of Tenure with Current Employer for Private and Public Sector Employees, 2000-2016



Authors' calculations using job tenure data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

Source: Retirement Reform Lessons: The Experience of Palm Beach Public Safety Pensions at: <https://www.nirsonline.org/content/uploads/2018/02/Final-Palm-Beach-Feb-2018.pdf>.

DB Plan's Role in the Public Sector: Workforce Management

- DBs improve public sector productivity:
 - Employees are more likely to value their jobs and tend to invest more in their skills.
- Pensions help recruit and retain quality workers. Moving to a DC design could affect recruitment, retention, and productivity.
- Teacher effectiveness increases with experience. Greater teacher retention means higher teacher productivity. When a mid-career teacher is replaced by an inexperienced teacher, the school as a whole sees a drop in productivity.

Palm Beach Case Study: Costs Due to Employee Turnover Wasn't Considered

In 2012, Palm Beach closed its DB pension and opened a Combined DB/DC plan, greatly reducing benefits. During the next four years (2012-2015), a total of 53 police officers and firefighters left the forces before retirement, including 53 vested officers.

Table 3: Palm Beach Police and Firefighter Pension Plans Withdrawals and Terminations (over the four-year period ending in year)

Valuation Year (9/30)	Police		Firefighter
	2011	2015	2011
Withdrawals During Last Four Years	12	25	3
Departures of Vested Employees	1	24	1

Source: Author's calculations based on the Actuarial Valuations from 2008 to 2015.



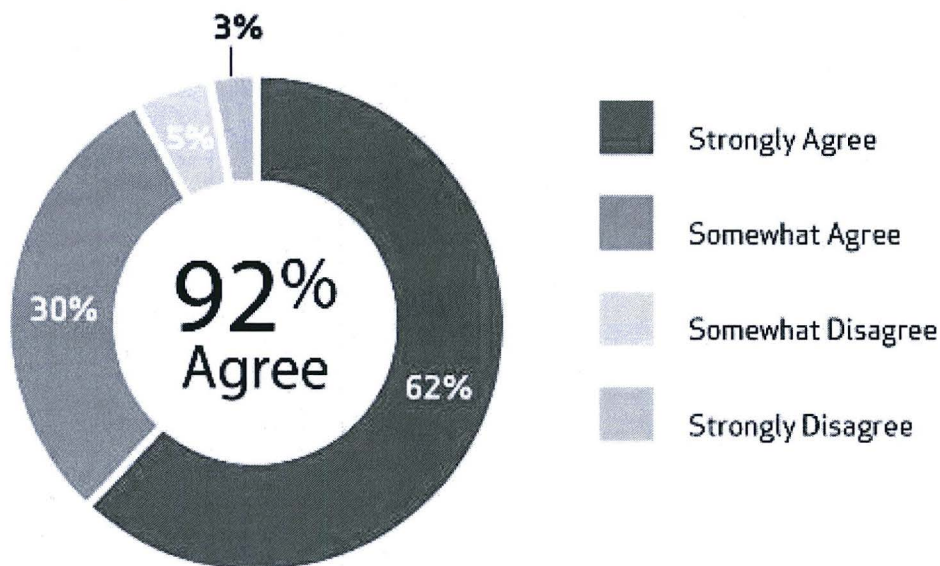
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Retirement Security

Source: Retirement Reform Lessons: The Experience of Palm Beach Public Safety Pensions at: <https://www.nirsonline.org/content/uploads/2018/02/Final-Palm-Beach-Feb-2018.pdf>.

92% of Americans: Public Pensions Way to Recruit and Retain Employees

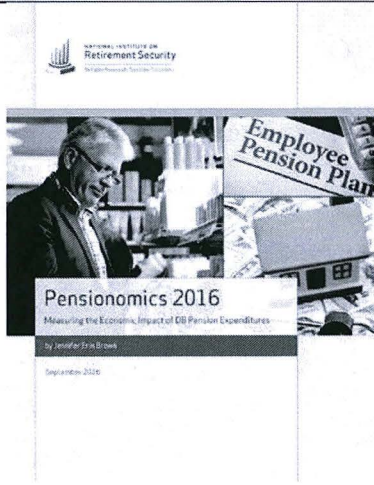
Figure 35: 92 percent of Americans say pensions help recruit and retain qualified employees.

Please tell me whether you (agree/disagree): Pensions are a good way to recruit and retain qualified teachers, police officers, and firefighters.



Source: Retirement Reform Lessons: The Experience of Palm Beach Public Safety Pensions at: <https://www.nirsonline.org/content/uploads/2018/02/Final-Palm-Beach-Feb-2018.pdf>.

Economic Impact of Alaska's Public Retirees Spending

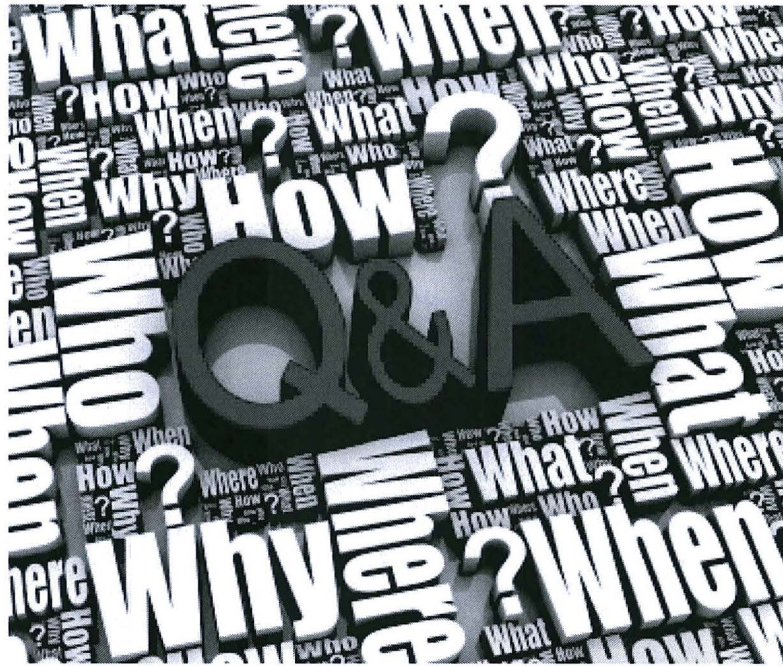


Expenditures by state retiree provide steady economic stimulus to Alaska. In 2016, these expenditures supported in Alaska:

- **Over 7,600 jobs** that paid \$400 million in wages
- **\$1.2 billion** in total economic output. Each dollar of pension benefits supported \$1.12 in total economic activity
- **\$168 million** in federal, state, and local tax revenue
- **Each taxpayer dollar “invested” in plans supported \$4.39** in total economic activity in the state.

Source: NIRS using IMPLAN in *Pensionomics 2016*: https://www.nirsonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/pensionomics2016_final.pdf.

Questions?



National Institute on Retirement Security
www.nirsonline.org



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Retirement

Back to Retirement Basics: What Should I Save & What is it Worth?

One of the difficulties when comparing traditional pensions to savings-based retirement plans is finding a way to evaluate the value of lifetime income and compare that to a lump sum amount. This paper is a short primer on understanding the difficult questions associated with do-it-yourself retirement plans, like *'What is my number?'* and *'How much income will my savings provide in retirement?'*

After many years when workers typically contributed 3-6% (if they had access to a plan at all), and employers typically matched 0-4%, the first 401k generation is now ill prepared for retirement.

Figure 8: Typical Working-Age Household Has Only \$2,500 in Retirement Account Assets; Typical Near-Retirement Household Has Only \$14,500

Median retirement account balances, households with retirement accounts vs. contingent median account balance for all households, 2013



Source: Authors' analysis of 2013 SCF.

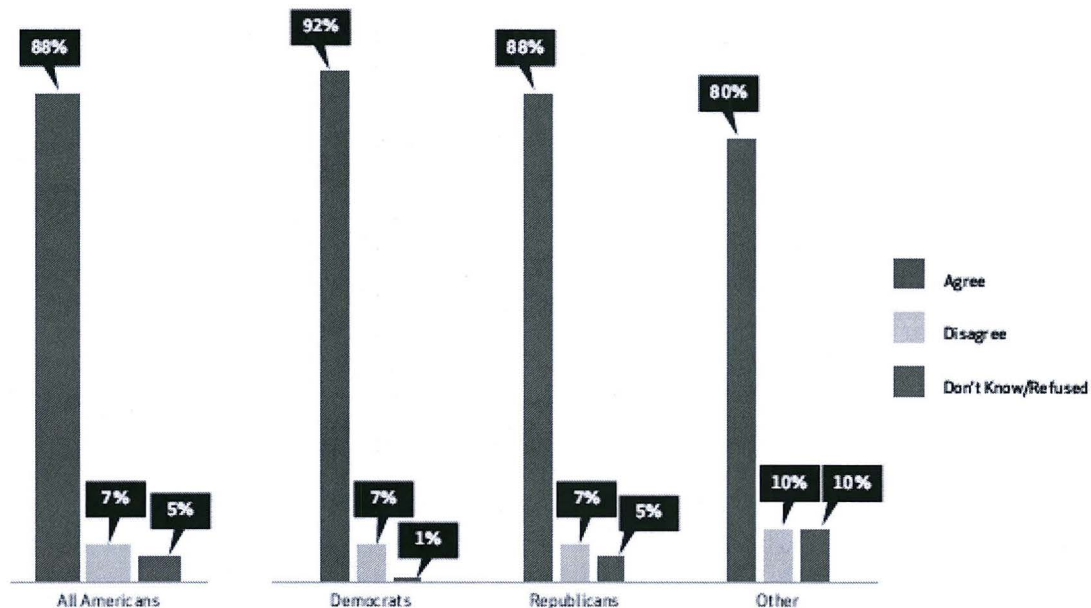
Not only are the average account balances inadequate, but Fidelity notes that "the average 65-year-old couple retiring today will spend about \$220,000 on health-care costs alone." Worse, health costs have continued to climb for decades.

There are plenty of culprits, the inefficiency of the 401k, hardship withdrawals, and lack of knowing just how much retirement will cost. Nevertheless, the basic conclusion is these do-it-yourself retirement systems make it incredibly costly and difficult for individuals to navigate (even for workers with access to Social Security).

Americans are aware and concerned about the retirement crisis, too:

Figure 2: Across party lines, Americans feel strongly that the nation faces a retirement crisis.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: America is facing a retirement crisis.



In response to the failure of the 401k, more financial firms are recommending people save much more. For instance, Stephen Utkus, Principal and Director in the Vanguard Center for Retirement Research says “people with a household income of between \$50,000 and \$100,000 should be saving 12% to 15%.” This recommendation is for workers who are covered by Social Security.

Decades into this experiment, there’s no straight answer to the most basic question: How much do I need?

The 4% Rule No Longer Holds

For many years, it was common for advisors to refer to the 4% rule. This basically meant it would take \$1 million to produce inflation-adjusted annual income of \$40,000 (annual withdraws starting at 4% of savings, and increases with inflation). CNN Money notes that “Historically, if you followed this regimen, you had a high likelihood -- roughly a 90% chance -- that your money would last at least 30 years, long enough to carry most people through retirement.” But, the era of low interest rates means even that advice is no longer working.

What it All Means

If you were retiring today, with a final salary of \$50,000 and no Social Security, you'd need to have saved upwards of \$1million dollars to have an opportunity for life income equal to roughly 80% of your pay level at retirement – though your health insurance situation could require even more. Still, there are many scenarios in which these projections fail to materialize.

For a 25-year old hired today, that target would be many times higher, as 40 years of inflation will erode the value of those dollars and you'd expect their pay level (and income needs) to be much higher in 2057.

That's why many are now arguing that 401k savers should be saving 15% of their pay – even if they will be receiving Social Security. For workers who are not covered by Social Security (which costs 12.4% of pay, split evenly), like Alaska's public employees, the savings rate would have to be much higher.

Please contact Bailey Childers, bchilders@protectpensions.org, with any questions.

Retirement Benefits offered by Alaska Compared to those of Other Northwestern Most Recent Tiers that a New Hires would Join

	Also Covered by Social Security	Employer-Sponsored Plans Available	DB Benefit Formula	Post-Retirement Increases	En
General Employees					
<i>Alaska: Tier 4-Hired after 7/1/2006</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>DC</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	
<i>State employees and 20 political subdivisions also participate in the Alaska Supplemental Annuity Plan</i>					
Washington: Pers 2-EE Choice-Hired after 6/3/06	Yes, All	DB	2.0% x Years x Final Salary	CPI up to 3%	
Washington: PERS 3-EE Choice-Hired after 6/3/06	Yes, All	DB, with DC component	1.0% x Years x Final Salary + DC account	CPI up to 3%	
Oregon: SPSRP-Hired after 8/28/2003	Yes, All	DB, with DC features	1.5% x Years x Final Salary + DC account	CPI up to 2%	
Montana: PERS DB (Employee Choice)	Yes, Most	Employees choose either DB or DC	1.5-2% x Years x Final Salary, based on service: [5-10: 1.5%, 10-30: 1.7857%, and 30 or more: 2%]	0-1.5%	
Montana: PERS DC (Employee Choice)	Yes, Most	Employees choose either DB or DC	N/A	N/A	
Idaho: PERSI	Yes, All	DB, with Voluntary DC	2.0% x Years x Final Salary	<i>If CPI > 1%, 1% Mandatory, plus Discretionary up to CPI, if CPI < 1%, CPI</i>	
Teachers					
<i>Alaska: Tier 3-Hired after 7/1/2006</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>DC</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	
Washington: TRS 2-EE Choice-Hired after 6/3/06	Yes, All	DB	2.0% x Years x Final Salary	CPI up to 3%	
Washington: TRS 3-EE Choice-Hired after 6/3/06	Yes, All	DB, with DC component	1.0% x Years x Final Salary + DC account	CPI up to 3%	
Oregon: SPSRP-Hired after 8/28/2003	Yes, All	DB, with DC features	1.5% x Years x Final Salary + DC account	CPI up to 2%	
Montana: Tier2-Hired after 6/30/2013	Yes, Most	DB	1.67% x years x Final Salary; 1.85% if 60 & 30	0.5-1.5%	
Idaho: PERSI	Yes, All	DB, with Voluntary DC	2.0% x Years x Final Salary	<i>If CPI > 1%, 1% Mandatory, plus Discretionary up to CPI, if CPI < 1%, CPI</i>	
Police and Fire					
<i>Alaska</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>DC</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	
Washington: LOEFF Plan 2	Yes, All	DB	2.0% x Years x Final Salary	CPI up to 3%	
Oregon: SPSRP-Hired after 8/28/2003	Yes, All	DB, with DC features	1.8% x Years x Final Salary + DC account	CPI up to 2%	
Montana: Municipal Police System (MPORS)	Yes, Most	DB	2.5% x Years x Final Salary	Up to 3%	
Montana: Firefighter Retirement System (FU)	Yes, Most	DB	2.5% x Years x Final Salary	Up to 3%	
Idaho: PERSI	Yes, All	DB, with Voluntary DC	2.3% x Years x Final Salary	<i>If CPI > 1%, 1% Mandatory, plus Discretionary up to CPI, if CPI < 1%, CPI</i>	

* Employers may pick-up this contribution

Please contact Bailey Childers, bchilders@protectpe

Comparing Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution Access

Most state and local governments offer a defined benefit pension to their firefighters, nurses, teachers, and other public employees. Meanwhile, only a quarter of public employees across the country are not eligible for Social Security (like in Alaska), meaning their pension is even more vital to those workers.

84% of all state and local government workers have access to a pension:

	All	State Government	Local Government
Defined Benefit Access	85%	87%	84%
Defined Contribution Access	33%	44%	29%

In the private sector, union and full-time workers are more likely to have access to a pension:

	All	Full-time	Part-time	Union	Non-union
Defined Benefit Access	18%	21%	8%	70%	13%
Defined Contribution Access	62%	72%	33%	55%	62%

Larger firms in the private sector are more likely to offer a pension:

	1 to 49	50 to 99	100 to 499	500+
Defined Benefit Access	7%	14%	20%	43%
Defined Contribution Access	46%	60%	74%	82%

Charts compiled from data available at: <https://www.hSDL.org/?view&did=799215>.

Failure of 401(k)s to Provide Retirement Security

Twenty years ago, Michigan moved its state employees into a 401(k). This year, the Office of Retirement Services found the following:

- Median amount state workers have saved for retirement: **\$37,260**
- Average amount saved: **\$79,878**
- For workers who are at least 60 years old and who have worked for the state for at least 15 years:
 - Average those older workers have saved in retirement accounts: **\$124,000**
 - Median savings of older group of workers: **\$36,000**

It is widely accepted that 401(k)s have failed most Americans.

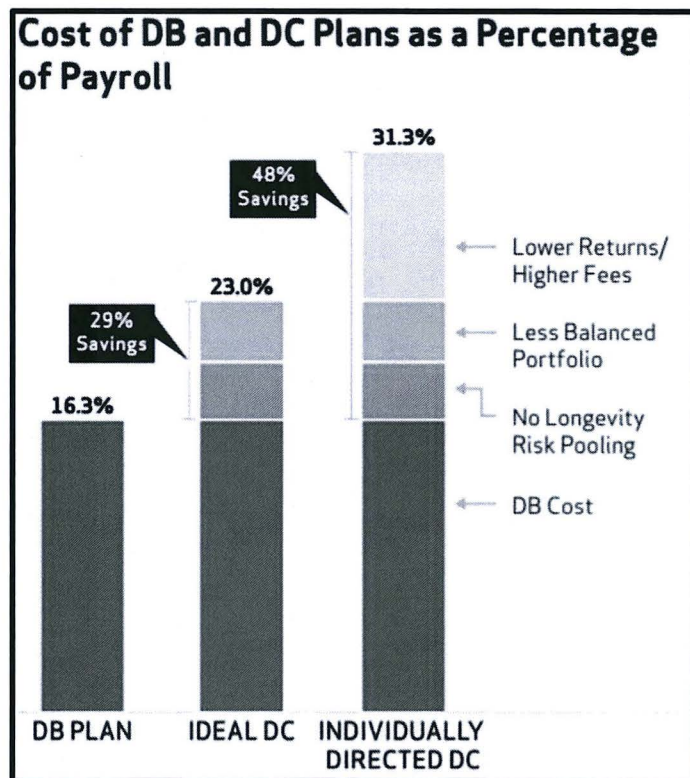
Wall Street Journal: [The Champions of the 401\(k\) Lament the Revolution They Started](#)

“The dominant vehicle for retirement savings has fallen short of its early backers’ rosy expectations; longer life spans, high fees and stock-market declines.”

Pensions are a solution not just for workers, but for the state.

[Pensions Offer a Better Bang for the Buck \(source: NIRS\)](#)

The fact is, you have to pay much more to provide the same level of benefit through a 401(k)-type plan, since they have consistently achieved lower returns, suffered from higher fees, and cannot benefit from pooling longevity risk.



Please contact Bailey Childers, bchilders@protectpensions.org, with any questions.

30-LS0315VT
Wayne
3/30/18

CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 83()

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY

**Offered:
Referred:**

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES KITO, Tarr, Tuck, Parish, LeDoux, Kawasaki

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the Public Employees' Retirement System of Alaska and the**
2 **teachers' retirement system; providing certain employees an opportunity to choose**
3 **between the defined benefit and defined contribution plans of the Public Employees'**
4 **Retirement System of Alaska and the teachers' retirement system; and providing for an**
5 **effective date."**

6 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

7 *** Section 1.** AS 14.20.165 is amended to read:

8 **Sec. 14.20.165. Restoration of tenure rights.** A teacher who held tenure
9 rights and who was retired due to disability under AS 14.25.130, but whose disability
10 (1) has been removed, and the removal of that disability is certified by a competent
11 physician following a physical or mental examination, or (2) has been compensated
12 for by rehabilitation or other appropriate restorative education or training, and that
13 rehabilitation or restoration to health has been certified by the commissioner of

1 **administration** [DIVISION OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION OF THE
 2 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT], shall be
 3 restored to full tenure rights in the district from which the teacher was retired, at such
 4 time as an opening for which the teacher is qualified becomes available.

5 * **Sec. 2.** AS 14.25.009 is repealed and reenacted to read:

6 **Sec. 14.25.009. Applicability of AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220.** (a) The provisions
 7 of AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220 apply to teachers who are eligible to be members of the
 8 teachers' retirement system under AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220 and are not members of
 9 the defined contribution retirement plan under AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590.

10 (b) An employer that participates in the plan shall also participate in the
 11 defined contribution retirement plan under AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590.

12 * **Sec. 3.** AS 14.25.040(a) is amended to read:

13 (a) Unless a teacher or member participates in a university retirement program
 14 under AS 14.40.661 - 14.40.799 or has elected under **AS 14.25.330 or former**
 15 AS 14.25.540 to participate in the plan established in AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590, a
 16 teacher or member contracting for service with a participating employer is subject to
 17 AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220.

18 * **Sec. 4.** AS 14.25.050(a) is amended to read:

19 (a) Except as provided in (c) **and (e)** of this section, beginning January 1,
 20 1991, each member shall contribute to the plan an amount equal to 8.65 percent of the
 21 member's base salary accrued from July 1 to the following June 30. [THE
 22 EMPLOYER SHALL DEDUCT THE CONTRIBUTION FROM THE MEMBER'S
 23 SALARY AT THE END OF EACH PAYROLL PERIOD, AND THE
 24 CONTRIBUTION SHALL BE CREDITED BY THE PLAN TO THE MEMBER
 25 CONTRIBUTION ACCOUNT. THE CONTRIBUTIONS SHALL BE DEDUCTED
 26 FROM EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION BEFORE THE COMPUTATION OF
 27 APPLICABLE FEDERAL TAXES AND SHALL BE TREATED AS EMPLOYER
 28 CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER 26 U.S.C. 414(h)(2). A MEMBER MAY NOT HAVE
 29 THE OPTION OF MAKING THE PAYROLL DEDUCTION DIRECTLY IN CASH
 30 INSTEAD OF HAVING THE CONTRIBUTION PICKED UP BY THE
 31 EMPLOYER.]

1 * **Sec. 5.** AS 14.25.050 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

2 (e) Except as provided in (a) and (c) of this section, a member who first
3 participates in the plan after June 30, 2006, shall contribute to the plan an amount
4 equal to eight percent of the employee's base salary accrued from July 1 to the
5 following June 30.

6 (f) The employer shall deduct the contributions under (a) and (e) of this
7 section from the member's salary at the end of each payroll period, and the
8 contributions shall be credited by the plan to the member contribution account. The
9 contributions shall be deducted from employee compensation before the computation
10 of applicable federal taxes and shall be treated as employer contributions under 26
11 U.S.C. 414(h)(2). A member may not have the option of making the payroll deduction
12 directly in cash instead of having the contribution picked up by the employer.

13 * **Sec. 6.** AS 14.25.130(c) is repealed and reenacted to read:

14 (c) A disabled member receiving a benefit under this section shall undergo a
15 medical examination as often as the administrator considers advisable, but not more
16 frequently than once each year. The administrator shall determine the place of the
17 examination and engage the physician or physicians. If the administrator determines
18 that the examination indicates that the disabled member is no longer incapacitated
19 because of a total and apparently permanent occupational disability, the administrator
20 may not issue further disability benefits to the disabled member.

21 * **Sec. 7.** AS 14.25.130 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

22 (g) A person who first becomes a member after June 30, 2006, and who is
23 appointed to disability benefits shall, within 30 days after the date disability benefits
24 commence, provide the administrator with proof that the member has applied for
25 enrollment in a vocational rehabilitation program approved by the administrator.
26 Unless the member demonstrates cause, the benefits terminate at the end of the first
27 month in which the member

28 (1) fails to provide the administrator with the required proof of
29 application for enrollment;

30 (2) is certified by the administrator as failing to enroll in or cooperate
31 with a vocational rehabilitation program approved under this subsection;

- 1 (3) fails to interview for a job; or
- 2 (4) fails to accept a job offered.

3 * **Sec. 8.** AS 14.25.168(d) is amended to read:

4 (d) A benefit recipient who first became a member before July 1, 2006, or
5 the benefit recipient's surviving spouse may elect major medical insurance coverage
6 in accordance with regulations and under the following conditions:

- 7 (1) a **benefit recipient** [PERSON] who has less than 25 years of
- 8 membership service and who is younger than 60 years of age must pay an amount
- 9 equal to the full monthly group premium for retiree major medical insurance coverage;
- 10 (2) a disabled member, a disabled member who is appointed to normal
- 11 retirement, a person 60 years of age or older, or a person who has at least 25 years of
- 12 membership service is not required to make premium payments.

13 * **Sec. 9.** AS 14.25.168 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

14 (g) A benefit recipient, or the surviving spouse of a benefit recipient, who first
15 becomes a member after June 30, 2006, may elect major medical insurance coverage
16 that was in effect before July 1, 2006, in accordance with regulations and under the
17 following conditions:

18 (1) if the participating member or surviving spouse is not eligible for
19 Medicare, the cost of a monthly premium for retiree major medical insurance coverage
20 elected under this section is equal to the full monthly group premium for retiree major
21 medical insurance coverage;

22 (2) if the participating member or surviving spouse is eligible for
23 Medicare, the cost of a monthly premium for retiree major medical insurance coverage
24 is a percentage of the full monthly group premium, as follows:

- 25 (A) 30 percent if the member had 10 or more, but less than 15,
- 26 years of service;
- 27 (B) 25 percent if the member had 15 or more, but less than 20,
- 28 years of service;
- 29 (C) 20 percent if the member had 20 or more, but less than 25,
- 30 years of service;
- 31 (3) the cost of a monthly premium paid by the member or the

1 member's surviving spouse for retiree major medical insurance coverage is

2 (A) 15 percent of the full monthly group premium if the
3 participating member has 25 or more, but less than 30, years of service;

4 (B) 10 percent of the full monthly group premium if the
5 participating member has 30 or more years of service;

6 (4) a disabled member or a disabled member who is appointed to
7 normal retirement is not required to make premium payments.

8 (h) On or after July 1, 2024, and every five years thereafter, the administrator
9 shall adjust the percentages under (g)(2) and (3) of this section as needed to maintain,
10 but not to exceed, over the succeeding five years, an employer normal cost rate for the
11 members and survivors who first become members after June 30, 2006, that does not
12 exceed the combined total of the rates under AS 14.25.350(a), (b), (d), and (e) minus
13 the employer normal cost rate attributable to the members who first become members
14 after June 30, 2006, for benefits under AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.167. An adjustment made
15 under this subsection shall remain in effect for five years. In making an adjustment
16 under this subsection, the administrator shall maintain the five percent differences
17 between the percentages in (g)(2)(A), (B), and (C) of this section and the five percent
18 differences between the percentages in (g)(3)(A) and (B) of this section.

19 (i) When a member is appointed to retirement, the member obtains a vested
20 right to the applicable percentage under (g)(2) or (3) of this section, as adjusted under
21 (h) of this section, that is in effect when the member is appointed to retirement. A
22 member does not obtain a vested right to a percentage under (g)(2) or (3) of this
23 section, as adjusted under (h) of this section, before the member is appointed to
24 retirement.

25 * **Sec. 10.** AS 14.25.310 is amended to read:

26 **Sec. 14.25.310. Applicability of AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590.** The provisions of
27 AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590 apply only to

28 **(1) teachers who first become members on or after July 1, 2006, and**
29 **before the effective date of this section who do not transfer to a defined benefit**
30 **retirement plan under AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220 or AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680;**

31 **(2) teachers described in AS 14.25.330 who elect under that section**

1 **to become** [TO MEMBERS WHO ARE EMPLOYED BY EMPLOYERS THAT DO
2 NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE DEFINED BENEFIT RETIREMENT PLAN
3 ESTABLISHED UNDER AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220, TO FORMER MEMBERS
4 UNDER AS 14.25.220, OR TO] members; **and**

5 **(3) teachers** who **transferred** [TRANSFER] into the defined
6 contribution retirement plan under **former** AS 14.25.540.

7 * **Sec. 11.** AS 14.25.310 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

8 (b) An employer that participates in the plan shall also participate in the
9 defined benefit retirement plan under AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220.

10 * **Sec. 12.** AS 14.25.330 is repealed and reenacted to read:

11 **Sec. 14.25.330. Retirement plan election option.** (a) A teacher who is first
12 hired on or after the effective date of this section may make a one-time election to
13 participate in the defined contribution retirement plan under AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590
14 retroactive to the date of hire and may transfer to that plan employer contributions, if
15 any, and employer contributions, if any, that have been made to the defined benefit
16 retirement plan under AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220. Before employer contributions are
17 transferred under this subsection, the administrator shall recalculate them under
18 AS 14.25.070.

19 (b) The election to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan
20 under (a) of this section must be made within 90 days after the date of hire and be
21 made in writing on a form and in the manner prescribed by the administrator. Before
22 accepting an election to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan, the
23 administrator shall, within 20 days after the administrator receives notification of the
24 teacher's date of hire, provide the teacher eligible to make an election to participate in
25 the defined contribution retirement plan under AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590 with

26 (1) information, including calculations to illustrate the effect of
27 moving the teacher's retirement plan from the defined benefit retirement plan to the
28 defined contribution retirement plan; and

29 (2) other information clearly to inform the teacher of the potential
30 consequences of the teacher's election.

31 (c) An election made under (a) of this section to participate in the defined

1 contribution retirement plan is irrevocable. Retroactive to the date of hire, the teacher
2 shall be enrolled in the defined contribution retirement plan under AS 14.25.310 -
3 14.25.590, the teacher's participation in the plan shall be governed by the provisions
4 for the defined contribution retirement plan, and the teacher's participation in the
5 defined benefit retirement plan under AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220 shall terminate.

6 (d) When an eligible teacher makes an election under (a) of this section, the
7 administrator shall cause the total amount of the teacher's employee and employer
8 contributions, with investment earnings and losses through the final day of the
9 teacher's participation in the defined benefit retirement plan, to be actuarially
10 calculated and transferred to the teacher's designated account in the defined
11 contribution retirement plan. The administrator shall establish transfer procedures by
12 regulation, but the actual transfer may not be later than 30 days after the date the
13 administrator receives the teacher's completed election form under (b) of this section,
14 unless the major financial markets for securities available for a transfer are seriously
15 disrupted by an unforeseen event that also causes the suspension of trading on any
16 national securities exchange in the country where the securities were issued. In that
17 event, the 30-day period may be extended by a resolution of the board. Transfers are
18 not commissionable or subject to other fees and may be in the form of securities or
19 cash as determined by the board. Securities shall be valued on the date of receipt in the
20 teacher's account.

21 (e) An eligible teacher whose accounts are subject to a qualified domestic
22 relations order may not make an election to participate in the defined contribution
23 retirement plan under this section unless the qualified domestic relations order is
24 amended or vacated and court-certified copies of the order are received by the
25 administrator.

26 * **Sec. 13.** AS 14.25.485(h) is repealed and reenacted to read:

27 (h) A member who is appointed to disability benefits shall, within 30 days
28 after the date disability benefits commence, provide the administrator with proof that
29 the member has applied for enrollment in a vocational rehabilitation program
30 approved by the administrator. Unless the member demonstrates cause, the benefits
31 terminate at the end of the first month in which the member

1 (1) fails to provide the administrator with the required proof of
2 application for enrollment;

3 (2) is certified by the administrator as failing to enroll in or cooperate
4 with a vocational rehabilitation program approved under this subsection;

5 (3) fails to interview for a job; or

6 (4) fails to accept a job offered.

7 * **Sec. 14.** AS 39.35.095 is repealed and reenacted to read:

8 **Sec. 39.35.095. Applicability of AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680.** (a) The provisions
9 of AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680 apply to public employees who are eligible to be
10 members of the public employees' retirement system under AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680
11 and are not members of the defined contribution retirement plan under AS 39.35.700 -
12 39.35.990.

13 (b) A public organization or a municipality or other political subdivision of the
14 state that participates in the plan shall also participate in the defined contribution
15 retirement plan under AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990.

16 * **Sec. 15.** AS 39.35 is amended by adding a new section to read:

17 **Sec. 39.35.128. Participation of elected officials of political subdivisions.** (a)
18 Except as provided in (b) of this section, a person who is an elected official of a
19 political subdivision of the state and who has not participated in the plan or waived
20 participation in the plan before July 1, 2019, is a member of the plan if

21 (1) the political subdivision has elected under AS 39.35.600 -
22 39.35.650 to designate elected officials in the classifications of employees entitled to
23 participate in the plan; and

24 (2) the elected official receives compensation from the political
25 subdivision for services as an elected official in the amount of at least \$2,001 a month.

26 (b) An elected official entitled to participate under this section, and who either
27 has no previous service under the system with the political subdivision or is retired
28 under the system, may file a waiver of participation in the plan with the administrator
29 within 30 days after the later of July 1, 2019, or the date that the elected official's term
30 of office begins. A waiver is irrevocable for the remainder of the elected official's
31 service as an elected official or employee of the political subdivision.

1 * **Sec. 16.** AS 39.35.160(a) is amended to read:

2 (a) **Subject to (e) of this section, beginning** [BEGINNING] January 1, 1987,
3 each peace officer or firefighter shall contribute to the plan an amount equal to seven
4 and one-half percent of the peace officer's or firefighter's compensation. Except as
5 provided in (d) **and (e)** of this section, beginning January 1, 1987, each other
6 employee shall contribute to the plan an amount equal to six and three-quarters percent
7 of the employee's compensation. [THE CONTRIBUTIONS SHALL BE DEDUCTED
8 BY THE EMPLOYER AT THE END OF EACH PAYROLL PERIOD. THE
9 CONTRIBUTIONS SHALL BE DEDUCTED FROM EMPLOYEE
10 COMPENSATION BEFORE COMPUTATION OF APPLICABLE FEDERAL
11 TAXES, AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS SHALL BE TREATED AS EMPLOYER
12 CONTRIBUTIONS UNDER 26 U.S.C. 414(h)(2). A MEMBER MAY NOT HAVE
13 THE OPTION OF MAKING THE PAYROLL DEDUCTION DIRECTLY INSTEAD
14 OF HAVING THE CONTRIBUTION PICKED UP BY THE EMPLOYER.]

15 * **Sec. 17.** AS 39.35.160 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

16 (e) Except as provided in (a) and (d) of this section, an employee, including a
17 peace officer or firefighter, who first participates in the plan after June 30, 2006, shall
18 contribute to the plan an amount equal to eight percent of the employee's
19 compensation.

20 (f) Contributions under (a) and (e) of this section shall be deducted by the
21 employer at the end of each payroll period. The contributions shall be deducted from
22 employee compensation before computation of applicable federal taxes, and the
23 contributions shall be treated as employer contributions under 26 U.S.C. 414(h)(2). A
24 member may not have the option of making the payroll deduction directly instead of
25 having the contribution picked up by the employer.

26 * **Sec. 18.** AS 39.35.400(e) is amended to read:

27 (e) A disabled employee receiving a nonoccupational disability benefit shall
28 provide the administrator, **within** one year after appointment to disability benefits and
29 once **within** each year thereafter until disability benefits **are denied or** cease, **with**
30 proof **that the disabled employee has applied** [OF CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY] to
31 receive disability payments under the Social Security Act. If the disabled employee is

1 otherwise ineligible for a social security payment, the employee shall provide the
2 administrator with sufficient medical evidence once each year to demonstrate that
3 disability payments under the Social Security Act would be payable had the employee
4 been otherwise eligible. If the disabled employee fails to provide the administrator
5 with evidence of continuing eligibility for disability payments under the Social
6 Security Act or other medical evidence required by the administrator within 30 days
7 following each anniversary date, the disability benefits from the plan shall cease. If
8 that information is subsequently provided to the administrator, benefit payments will
9 resume beginning for the month following that in which the information is provided.
10 When disability payments under the Social Security Act cease, it is the responsibility
11 of the disabled employee to notify the administrator immediately.

12 * **Sec. 19.** AS 39.35.410 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

13 (k) A person who first becomes an employee after June 30, 2006, and who is
14 appointed to disability benefits shall, within 30 days after the date disability benefits
15 commence, provide the administrator with proof that the employee has applied for
16 enrollment in a vocational rehabilitation program approved by administrator. Unless
17 the employee demonstrates cause, the benefits terminate at the end of the first month
18 in which the employee

19 (1) fails to provide the administrator with the required proof of
20 application for enrollment;

21 (2) is certified by the administrator as failing to enroll in or cooperate
22 with a vocational rehabilitation program approved under this subsection;

23 (3) fails to interview for a job; or

24 (4) fails to accept a job offered.

25 * **Sec. 20.** AS 39.35.535(c) is amended to read:

26 (c) A benefit recipient may elect major medical insurance coverage in
27 accordance with regulations and under the following conditions:

28 (1) a person **who first became a member before July 1, 2006, or the**
29 **surviving spouse of the person**, other than a disabled member or a disabled member
30 who is appointed to normal retirement, must pay an amount equal to the full monthly
31 group premium for retiree major medical insurance coverage if the person is

- 1 (A) younger than 60 years of age and has less than
2 (i) 25 years of credited service as a peace officer under
3 AS 39.35.360 and 39.35.370; or
4 (ii) 30 years of credited service under AS 39.35.360 and
5 39.35.370 that is not service as a peace officer; or
6 (B) of any age and has less than 10 years of credited service;
- 7 (2) a person **who first became a member before July 1, 2006, or the**
8 **surviving spouse of the person** is not required to make premium payments for retiree
9 major medical **insurance** coverage if the person
- 10 (A) is a disabled member;
11 (B) is a disabled member who is appointed to normal
12 retirement;
13 (C) is 60 years of age or older and has at least 10 years of
14 credited service; or
15 (D) has at least
- 16 (i) 25 years of credited service as a peace officer under
17 AS 39.35.360 and 39.35.370; or
18 (ii) 30 years of credited service under AS 39.35.360 and
19 39.35.370 not as a peace officer;
- 20 **(3) except as provided in (4) and (5) of this subsection, a benefit**
21 **recipient who first becomes a member after June 30, 2006, or a benefit recipient**
22 **who is the surviving spouse of a person who first becomes a member after**
23 **June 30, 2006, may, in accordance with regulations, elect retiree major medical**
24 **coverage that was in effect before July 1, 2006, and pay an amount equal to the**
25 **full monthly group premium for retiree major medical insurance coverage;**
26 **however, except as provided in (4) and (5) of this subsection, if the benefit**
27 **recipient is eligible for Medicare, the cost of a monthly premium is a percentage**
28 **of the full monthly group premium, as follows:**
- 29 (A) **30 percent if the member has 10 or more, but less than**
30 **15, years of service;**
- 31 (B) **25 percent if the member has 15 or more, but less than**

1 20, years of service;

2 (C) 20 percent if the member has 20 or more, but less than

3 25, years of service;

4 (D) 15 percent if the member has 25 or more, but less than

5 30, years of service not as a peace officer;

6 (4) except as provided in (5) of this subsection, a benefit recipient
7 who first becomes a member after June 30, 2006, or a benefit recipient who is the
8 surviving spouse of a person who first becomes a member after June 30, 2006,
9 shall pay a monthly premium that is

10 (A) 15 percent of the cost of a full monthly group premium
11 if the member has 25 or more, but less than 30, years of service as a peace
12 officer; or

13 (B) 10 percent of the cost of a full monthly group premium
14 if the member has 30 or more years of service;

15 (5) a benefit recipient who first becomes a member after June 30,
16 2006, is not required to make premium payments for retiree major medical
17 coverage if the recipient

18 (A) is a disabled member; or

19 (B) is a disabled member who is appointed to normal
20 retirement;

21 (6) on or after July 1, 2024, and every five years thereafter, the
22 administrator shall adjust the percentages under (3) and (4) of this subsection as
23 needed to maintain, but not to exceed, over the succeeding five years, an
24 employer normal cost rate for the members and survivors who first became
25 members after June 30, 2006, that does not exceed the combined total of the rates
26 under AS 39.35.750(a), (b), (d), and (e) minus the employer normal cost rate
27 attributable to the members who first become members after June 30, 2006, for
28 benefits under AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.530; an adjustment made under this
29 paragraph shall remain in effect for five years; in making an adjustment under
30 this paragraph, the administrator shall maintain the five percent differences
31 between the percentages in (3)(A), (B), (C), and (D) of this subsection and the five

1 percent differences between the percentages in (4)(A) and (B) of this subsection;
2 (7) when a member is appointed to retirement, the member
3 obtains a vested right to the applicable percentage under (3) or (4) of this
4 subsection, as adjusted under (6) of this subsection, that is in effect when the
5 member is appointed to retirement; a member does not obtain a vested right to a
6 percentage under (3) or (4) of this subsection, as adjusted under (6) of this
7 subsection, before appointment to retirement.

8 * **Sec. 21.** AS 39.35.620(k) is amended to read:

9 (k) Termination of an employer's participation in the plan does not bar future
10 participation in the system by that employer if the employer is current with payments
11 on amounts due under AS 39.35.625. [IF A PREVIOUSLY TERMINATED
12 EMPLOYER RETURNS TO THE SYSTEM, THE EMPLOYER MAY ONLY
13 PARTICIPATE IN THE PLAN ESTABLISHED UNDER AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990.
14 EMPLOYEES MAY BE CREDITED UNDER AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990 ONLY
15 WITH SERVICE SUBSEQUENT TO THE DATE OF RETURN.]

16 * **Sec. 22.** AS 39.35.680(18) is amended to read:

17 (18) "employer" means

18 (A) the State of Alaska;

19 (B) a political subdivision or public organization of the state
20 that participates in the plan based on a resolution to participate in the plan that
21 was approved by the administrator [ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2006]; or

22 (C) a political subdivision or public organization of the state
23 that, as a result of consolidation or reorganization [THAT OCCURS ON OR
24 AFTER JULY 1, 2006], assumes liability under the plan of a political
25 subdivision or public organization described in (B) of this paragraph;

26 * **Sec. 23.** AS 39.35.700 is amended to read:

27 **Sec. 39.35.700. Applicability of AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990.** The provisions of
28 AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990 apply only to

29 (1) members first hired on or after July 1, 2006, and before the
30 effective date of this section who do not transfer to a defined benefit retirement
31 plan under AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220 or AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680;

1 **(2) public employees described in AS 39.35.720 who elect under**
 2 **that section to become** [TO MEMBERS WHO ARE EMPLOYED BY
 3 EMPLOYERS THAT DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE DEFINED BENEFIT
 4 RETIREMENT PLAN ESTABLISHED UNDER AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680, TO
 5 FORMER MEMBERS AS DEFINED IN AS 39.35.680, OR TO] members; **and**
 6 **(3) members** who **transferred** [TRANSFER] into the defined
 7 contribution retirement plan under **former** AS 39.35.940.

8 * **Sec. 24.** AS 39.35.700 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

9 (b) A public organization as defined in AS 39.35.680 or a municipality or
 10 other political subdivision of the state that participates in the plan shall also participate
 11 in the defined benefit retirement plan under AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680.

12 * **Sec. 25.** AS 39.35.720 is repealed and reenacted to read:

13 **Sec. 39.35.720. Retirement plan election option.** (a) A public employee who
 14 is first hired on or after the effective date of this section may make a one-time election
 15 to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan under AS 39.35.700 -
 16 39.35.990 retroactive to the date of hire and may transfer to that plan employee
 17 contributions, if any, and employer contributions, if any, that have been made to the
 18 defined benefit retirement plan under AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680. Before employer
 19 contributions are transferred under this subsection, the administrator shall recalculate
 20 them under AS 39.35.255.

21 (b) The election to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan
 22 under (a) of this section must be made within 90 days after the date of hire and be
 23 made in writing on a form and in the manner prescribed by the administrator. Before
 24 accepting an election to participate in the defined contribution retirement plan under
 25 AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990, the administrator shall, within 20 days after the
 26 administrator receives notice of the public employee's date of hire, provide the
 27 employee eligible to make an election to participate in the defined contribution
 28 retirement plan with

29 (1) information, including calculations to illustrate the effect of
 30 moving the employee's retirement plan from the defined benefit retirement plan to the
 31 defined contribution retirement plan; and

1 (2) other information clearly to inform the employee of the potential
2 consequences of the employee's election.

3 (c) An election made under (a) of this section to participate in the defined
4 contribution retirement plan is irrevocable. Retroactive to the date of hire, the
5 employee shall be enrolled in the defined contribution retirement plan under
6 AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990, the employee's participation in the plan shall be governed
7 by the provisions for the defined contribution retirement plan, and the employee's
8 participation in the defined benefit retirement plan under AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680
9 shall terminate.

10 (d) When an employee makes an election under (a) of this section, the
11 administrator shall cause the total amount of the employee's employee and employer
12 contributions, with investment earnings and losses through the final day of the
13 employee's participation in the defined benefit retirement plan, to be actuarially
14 calculated and transferred to the employee's designated account in the defined
15 contribution retirement plan. The administrator shall establish transfer procedures by
16 regulation, but the actual transfer may not be later than 30 days after the date the
17 administrator receives the employee's completed election form under (b) of this
18 section, unless the major financial markets for securities available for a transfer are
19 seriously disrupted by an unforeseen event that also causes the suspension of trading
20 on any national securities exchange in the country where the securities were issued. In
21 that event, the 30-day period may be extended by a resolution of the board. Transfers
22 are not commissionable or subject to other fees and may be in the form of securities or
23 cash as determined by the board. Securities shall be valued on the date of receipt in the
24 employee's account.

25 (e) An eligible employee whose accounts are subject to a qualified domestic
26 relations order may not make an election to participate in the defined contribution
27 retirement plan under this section unless the qualified domestic relations order is
28 amended or vacated and court-certified copies of the order are received by the
29 administrator.

30 * **Sec. 26.** AS 39.35.890(j) is repealed and reenacted to read:

31 (j) A member who is appointed to disability benefits shall, within 30 days after

1 the date disability benefits commence, provide the administrator with proof that the
2 member has applied for enrollment in a vocational rehabilitation program approved by
3 the administrator. Unless the member demonstrates cause, the benefits terminate at the
4 end of the first month in which the member

5 (1) fails to provide the administrator with the required proof of
6 application for enrollment;

7 (2) is certified by the administrator as failing to enroll in or cooperate
8 with a vocational rehabilitation program approved under this subsection;

9 (3) fails to interview for a job; or

10 (4) fails to accept a job offered.

11 * **Sec. 27.** AS 14.25.012(c), 14.25.540; AS 39.35.940, and 39.35.957(b) are repealed.

12 * **Sec. 28.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
13 read:

14 **RETIREMENT PLAN ELECTION CHOICE.** (a) A teacher who was first hired after
15 June 30, 2006, and before the effective date of this section and who is a member of the
16 defined contribution plan of the teachers' retirement system under AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590
17 may make a one-time election, within 90 days after the effective date of this section, to
18 participate in the defined benefit retirement plan under AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220 and to
19 transfer all contributions, including employer contributions, that have been made or should be
20 made to the defined contribution retirement plan for service the member completes before the
21 effective date of the member's participation in the defined benefit retirement plan.

22 (b) A public employee who was first hired after June 30, 2006, and before the
23 effective date of this section and who is a member of the defined contribution plan of the
24 public employees' retirement system under AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990 may make a one-time
25 election, within 90 days after the effective date of this section, to participate in the defined
26 benefit retirement plan under AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680 and to transfer all contributions,
27 including employer contributions, that have been made or should be made to the defined
28 contribution retirement plan for any service the member completes before the effective date of
29 the member's participation in the defined benefit retirement plan.

30 * **Sec. 29.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
31 read:

1 RETIREMENT PLAN ELECTION PROCEDURE; REGULATIONS REQUIRED.

2 (a) The election to participate in the defined benefit retirement plan under sec. 28 of this Act
3 must be made in writing on forms and in the manner prescribed by the administrator. Before
4 accepting an election to participate in the defined benefit retirement plan, the administrator
5 shall provide the employee planning on making an election to participate in the defined
6 benefit retirement plan with information, including calculations to illustrate the effect of
7 moving the employee's retirement plan from the defined contribution retirement plan to the
8 defined benefit retirement plan as well as other information clearly to inform the employee of
9 the potential consequences of the employee's election.

10 (b) An election made under sec. 28 of this Act to participate in the defined benefit
11 retirement plan is irrevocable. On the effective date of the election, an eligible employee who
12 makes the election shall be enrolled as a member of the defined benefit retirement plan, the
13 employee's participation in the plan shall be governed by the provisions for the defined
14 benefit retirement plan, and the employee's participation in the defined contribution retirement
15 plan shall terminate. The employee's enrollment in the defined benefit retirement plan shall be
16 effective retroactive to the date of hire. An election made by an eligible employee who is
17 married is not effective unless the election is signed by the employee's spouse.

18 (c) When an eligible employee makes a one-time election under sec. 28 of this Act,
19 the administrator shall cause the total amount of the employee's employee and employer
20 contributions, with investment earnings and losses through the final day of the employee's
21 participation as a member in the defined contribution retirement plan, to be actuarially
22 calculated and, subject to (d) of this section, transferred to the pension fund in the defined
23 benefit retirement plan. On the effective date of the employee's participation in the defined
24 benefit retirement plan, the employee shall be credited with service in the defined benefit
25 retirement plan that is equal to the employee's service in years, including fractional years,
26 recognized for computing benefits that may be due from the defined contribution retirement
27 plan. The board shall establish transfer procedures by regulation, but the actual transfer may
28 not be later than 30 days after the date the administrator receives the employee's completed
29 election forms under (a) of this section, unless the major financial markets for securities
30 available for a transfer are seriously disrupted by an unforeseen event that also causes the
31 suspension of trading on any national securities exchange in the country where the securities

1 were issued. In that event, the 30-day period may be extended by a resolution of the board.
2 Transfers are not commissionable or subject to other fees and may be in the form of securities
3 or cash as determined by the board. Securities shall be valued on the date of receipt in the
4 employee's account.

5 (d) If the value actuarially calculated under (c) of this section is insufficient to pay for
6 a service credit equal to the employee's actual service, the administrator shall allow the
7 employee to create an indebtedness up to the amount needed to eliminate the insufficiency;
8 however, if that value exceeds the amount needed to pay for a service credit equal to the
9 employee's actual service, the administrator shall cause the excess to be paid to the employee
10 as a rollover transfer to either an individual employee annuity account in the Department of
11 Administration under the terms of AS 39.30.150 - 39.30.180 (State of Alaska Supplemental
12 Annuity Plan) or, if the employee's employer does not participate in the State of Alaska
13 Supplemental Annuity Plan, to an eligible retirement plan as defined in AS 14.25.360(d) or
14 AS 39.35.760(d). An excess under this subsection may not be used to purchase service credit
15 in a retirement plan administered under AS 14.25 or AS 39.35.

16 (e) The provisions of this section are subject to the requirements of the Internal
17 Revenue Code and the limitations under AS 14.25.010, 14.25.320(c) and (d), 14.25.490,
18 AS 39.35.115, 39.35.678, 39.35.710(c) and (d), and 39.35.895.

19 (f) In this section,

20 (1) "administrator" means the commissioner of administration or the person
21 designated by the commissioner of administration under AS 39.35.003 for a public
22 employees' retirement plan and under AS 14.25.003 for a teachers' retirement plan;

23 (2) "board" means the Alaska Retirement Management Board established
24 under AS 37.10.210;

25 (3) "defined benefit retirement plan" means the retirement plan established
26 under

27 (A) AS 14.25.009 - 14.25.220 for a teacher; or

28 (B) AS 39.35.095 - 39.35.680 for a public employee;

29 (4) "defined contribution retirement plan" means the retirement plan
30 established under

31 (A) AS 14.25.310 - 14.25.590 for a teacher; or

1 (B) AS 39.35.700 - 39.35.990 for a public employee;

2 (5) "Internal Revenue Code" has the meaning given in AS 39.35.990.

3 * **Sec. 30.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to
4 read:

5 ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS. The commissioner of administration shall adopt
6 regulations under AS 39.35.005 and AS 14.25.005 necessary to implement the changes made
7 by this Act. A regulation adopted under this section may not take effect before the effective
8 date of the law being implemented by the regulation.

9 * **Sec. 31.** Sections 29 and 30 of this Act take effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

10 * **Sec. 32.** Except as provided in sec. 31 of this Act, this Act takes effect July 1, 2019.



Representative Sam Kito

Alaska State Legislature

House District 33

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House Labor & Commerce

Chair
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Member
House Health &
Social Services

Member
House Rules

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Explanation of Changes

House Bill 83

PERS/TRS

Version N to Version T

Version T includes the following changes to HB 83 version N:

- Broadened the title to refer to more than the new tiers, use the more precise Title Change title “Public Employees’ Retirement System of Alaska” instead of “public employees’ retirement system”.
- Adding-Added a new Sec. Section-1 at the department’s request, making it easier for teachers to return to work after recovering from a disability. The section will allow TRS to accept a certification of rehabilitation from other states’ vocational rehabilitation offices. Restoration of Tenure Rights, relating to retirees due to a disability to get fair compensation and restorative education or training to be administered by the Commissioner of Administration
- Changing-Changed Sec. Section-6 at the department’s request to clarify language on those with ease potentially burdensome exams for teachers getting a disability benefits/pension to seek non-benefits after they have recovered.
- Changed Sec. 7 at the department’s request to allow TRS to accept vocational rehabilitation services in other states for teachers on a disability pension.
- Section-Adjusted Sec. 9 at the department’s request to clarify which retiree medical plan applies to teachers who retire in the new DB tier. Also updates the E first risk adjustment to health care premiums effective date from July 1, 2021 to July 1, 2024, five years after the effective date.
- Removed from Sec. 12, at the Department of Law’s request, the requirement that a teacher’s spouse agree to the initial choice between the DB and DC plans.
- New-Adds a new Sec. Section-13 at the department’s request requiring so those teachers that are appointed to disability benefits in the DC plan will go through the proper administrative channels can receive vocational rehabilitation in other states.
- Section-Conforms Sec. 15 July 1, 2019 to the new effective date.
- Section-Clarified Sec. 18 subsection language covering non-occupational disability benefits, as requested by the department. “e” a person on disability

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~~benefit shall provide administrators with doctoral exam documents if they continue to seek eligibility to disability benefits~~

- ~~Changed Section Sec. 19 at the department's request to allow PERS to accept vocational rehabilitation services in other states for those on a disability pension, adding clarifying language to the previous sections of implementation of employees seeking disability benefits.~~
- ~~Adjusted Sec. 20 at the department's request to clarify which retiree medical plan applies to employees who retire in the new DB tier. Also updates the first risk adjustment to health care premiums to 2024, five years after the effective date.~~
- ~~Removed from Sec. 25, at the Department of Law's request, the requirement that a teacher's spouse agree to the initial choice between the DB and DC plans.~~
- ~~Section 25 removing spousal consent to a new employee~~
- ~~Adds a new Sec. 26 at the department's request so teachers appointed to disability in the DC plan can receive vocational rehabilitation in other states.~~
- ~~New Section 27~~Sec. 29 has a conforming change to a section number within the bill.
- Sec. 30 has been changed so it does not alter the department's existing regulations process for the retirement systems.
- Section 31 ~~to~~ has conforming changes to reflect ~~new~~ the appropriate section numbers in the CS.
- Section 32 changes the effective date to July 1, 2019.

LEGAL SERVICES

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MEMORANDUM

March 30, 2018

SUBJECT: (CSHB 83(); Work Order No. 30-LS0315\T)

TO: Representative Sam Kito
Attn: Edric Carrillo

FROM: Daniel C. Wayne
Legislative Counsel



The draft CS you requested is attached. Please review it carefully. As requested, I changed the bill's effective date, and dates in sec. 39.35.128 to July 1, 2019, and deleted the requirements under secs. 12 and 25 that a new employee's spouse sign off on the employee's one-time irrevocable election to participate in a defined contribution plan instead of a defined benefit plan, in order for that election to be valid.

It is foreseeable that a spouse may litigate an election under sec. 12 or sec 25, if the draft CS becomes law, even though at the time of the election under those sections the employee's pension benefits are not yet vested, the present value of the benefits may be very small, and their future value is speculative. In *Laing v. Laing*, the Alaska Supreme Court held that nonvested pension rights are a marital asset.¹ The Court reasoned that an employee's spouse has a contractual right to the employee's nonvested pension benefits, and "the fact that a contractual right is contingent upon future events does not degrade that right to an expectancy."² This may raise a constitutional issue under art. I, sec. 15, Constitution of the State of Alaska, which prohibits laws that impair the obligation of contracts.

As noted in a previous memo to your office dated May 1, 2017, in 1981 the Alaska Supreme Court determined that earned pension benefits cannot be diminished, and the future right to a specified benefit is vested when employment begins.³ Because under

¹ *Laing v. Laing*, 741 P.2d 649, 656 (Alaska 1987).

² *Id.*, (internal citations and quotations omitted).

³ *Hammond v. Hoffbeck*, 627 P.2d 1052 (Alaska 1981). It is worth noting that the reductions in benefits found invalid in *Hammond* included a reduction in occupational death benefits. Occupational death benefits are among the benefits to which an employee's spouse has rights under PERS and TRS.

Representative Sam Kito

March 30, 2018

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both PERS and TRS, an employee's spouse may have future legal rights to the employee's retirement benefits, an argument can be made that an election by the employee to give up rights under PERS or TRS requires the spouse's assent.

Also, as advised in our memo to your office dated April 17, 2017, (referencing ver. O) "language referencing coverage that was 'in effect before July 1, 2006,' added by request to AS 14.25.168 on page 4, lines 4 - 5, and AS 39.35.535, on page 11, lines 15 - 16, is superfluous. As amended by the bill without adding this language, AS 14.25.168 (in TRS) and AS 39.35.535 (in PERS) already make it clear that everyone to whom a respective section applies will receive the same major medical coverage under this section, whether they were members of the plan before July 1, 2006, or became members later as permitted by the bill. Furthermore, the added language may cause confusion, beginning with the meaning of "coverage in effect before July 1, 2006," that makes it more difficult to administer the respective plans."

If I may be of further assistance, please advise.

DCW:dls
18-183.dls

Attachment