

TESTIMONY OF DERRICK HOHBEIN

House Bill 1077 – Clarifies the Eligibility for the National Guard Retirement Plan

Good Morning, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee. My name is Derrick Hohbein and I am the Chief Operating/Financial Officer of the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System, or NDPERS. I appreciate the committee taking the time to analyze House Bill 1077, which clarifies the individuals who are eligible for the National Guard Retirement Plan. I am here today on behalf of the NDPERS Board to provide information in a neutral capacity so the policy makers are able to make an informed decision regarding the bill.

House Bill 1077 expands the definition of a National Guard security officer or firefighter to include security officer employees. It is our understanding this is more of a technical correction being submitted by the Adjutant General's Office, and have confirmed with the agency that there are not additional employees impacted at this time, unless they decide to fill some vacant positions. As such, there is no fiscal impact that is expected if the Legislation were to pass.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the committee taking the time to learn more about the impact this bill will have to our state. This concludes my testimony, and I'd be happy to answer any questions the committee may have.