

**TESTIMONY OF
JASON SUTHEIMER, OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
BEFORE THE
SENATE AGRICULTURE AND VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
14 FEBRUARY 2025
IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 1077**

Good morning, Chairman Luick and Members of the Senate Agriculture and Veterans Affairs Committee:

For the record my name is Jason Sutheimer, Human Resource Business Partner within the Office of the Adjutant General. Thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of this bill today.

This bill was introduced by the Office of the Adjutant General (OTAG) at the request of the North Dakota Public Employee Retirement System (NDPERS). Based on the timing of when cleanup bills needed to be submitted by NDPERS, they requested our agency submit this cleanup bill.

During a recent hire in the Security section at Fraine Barracks, conversations took place with NDPERS as to which retirement plan to enroll our security positions. Our security positions have both classified and non-classified team members performing similar job duties. Previous NDPERS guidance was the "status" of position the team member held determined which retirement plan they were enrolled in. After further conversations and analyzing the retirement plans further, NDPERS made the determination that all security team members should be enrolled in the same retirement plan regardless of their classified status.

This bill is being introduced to clarify the definition of a National Guard Security Officer and provide clarification for existing Adjutant General team members serving in security positions. NDPERS submitted the fiscal note for this bill showing there are no fiscal impact because all current team members employed in this capacity were placed into the National Guard retirement plan upon the NDPERS's determination.

Thank you again for the opportunity to be here this morning and for the important work you are doing. I am happy to stand for questions.