



EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Friday, January 27, 2023
Pioneer Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

Representative Josh Boschee, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m.

Members present: Representatives Josh Boschee, Bert Anderson, Claire Cory, Mitch Ostlie, Matthew Ruby, Mary Schneider, Paul J. Thomas; Senators Brad Bekkedahl, Dick Dever, Tim Mathern, Kristin Roers, Shawn Vedaa

Member absent: Senator Randy A. Burckhard

Others present: Senator Sean Cleary, Bismarck
See [Appendix A](#) for additional persons present.

It was moved by Senator Mathern, seconded by Senator Vedaa, and carried on a voice vote that the minutes of the January 17, 2023, meeting be approved as distributed.

BILL DRAFT ACTUARIAL REPORTS

The committee received technical comments, actuarial information, and comments by interested persons relating to the following four bills, over which the committee took jurisdiction, which affect, actuarially or otherwise, the retirement programs of state employees or employees of any political subdivision, and health and retiree health plans of state employees or employees of any political subdivision pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 54-35-02.4:

- [House Bill No. 1271](#), which provides for retired teachers returning to employment as teachers.
- [Senate Bill No. 2258](#), which provides for retired teachers returning to employment in critical shortage areas.
- [Senate Bill No. 2171](#), which requires the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) to provide an optional health benefits plan.
- [Senate Bill No. 2239](#), which provides for actuarially determined employer contribution rates for the PERS defined benefit retirement plan.

Mr. Chad Roberts, Deputy Executive Director and Chief Retirement Officer, Retirement and Investment Office, provided the actuarial report and agency testimony ([Appendix B](#)) regarding House Bill No. 1271.

It was moved by Senator Bekkedahl, seconded by Senator Roers, and carried on a roll call vote that the committee give an unfavorable recommendation on House Bill No. 1271. Representatives Boschee, Anderson, Cory, Ostlie, Schneider, and Thomas and Senators Roers, Bekkedahl, Dever, Mathern, and Vedaa voted "aye." Representative Ruby voted "nay."

Mr. Roberts provided the actuarial report and agency testimony ([Appendix C](#)) regarding Senate Bill No. 2258.

It was moved by Senator Vedaa, seconded by Representative Ruby, and carried on a roll call vote that the committee give a favorable recommendation on Senate Bill No. 2258. Representatives Boschee, Anderson, Cory, Ostlie, Ruby, Schneider, and Thomas and Senators Roers, Bekkedahl, Dever, Mathern, and Vedaa voted "aye." No negative votes were cast.

Senator Dever testified in support of Senate Bill No. 2171.

Mr. Scott Miller, Executive Director, Public Employees Retirement System, provided the actuarial reports and agency testimony ([Appendix D](#)) on Senate Bill Nos. 2171 and 2239.

Ms. Rebecca Fricke, Chief Benefits Officer, Public Employees Retirement System, testified regarding Senate Bill No. 2171.

It was moved by Senator Bekkedahl, seconded by Senator Roers, and carried on a roll call vote that the committee give a favorable recommendation on Senate Bill No. 2171. Representatives Boschee, Anderson, Cory, Ostlie, Schneider, and Thomas and Senators Roers, Bekkedahl, Dever, Mathern, and Vedaa voted "aye." No negative votes were cast.

Senator Sean Cleary testified ([Appendix E](#)) in favor of Senate Bill No. 2239.

Ms. Fricke testified regarding Senate Bill No. 2239.

It was moved by Senator Dever, seconded by Senator Bekkedahl, and carried on a roll call vote that the committee give a favorable recommendation on Senate Bill No. 2239. Representatives Boschee, Anderson, Ostlie, Ruby, and Schneider and Senators Roers, Bekkedahl, Dever, and Mathern voted "aye." Representative Cory and Senator Vedaa voted "nay."

No further business appearing, Chairman Boschee adjourned the meeting at 8:15 a.m.

Jennifer S. N. Clark
Senior Counsel and Code Revisor

ATTACH:5