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10/2/03  
Date

2003 SENATE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

SB 2266

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2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2266

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 01/31/03

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
Tape 1	x		4150-5850
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Lisa Hylt</i>			

Minutes:

**Senator Karen Krebsbach**, Chairman opens SB 2266.

**Senator Christenson** introduces bill and explains this is a bill of generosity. She also adds that they would be happy with a cap of \$500 if the committee believes there is a need for a cap.

**Senator Brown**: Is this the only retirement plan for the firefighters?

**Senator Christenson**: No it is above the retirement fund it is money from the insurance fund.

**Cary Foy, Captain of Grand Forks Firefighters**, We don't have a problem with no cap limit it would be agreeable with us.

**Senator Nelson** : Would you explain your pension.

**Foy**: This would be up to \$200 a month funded from state fire and tornado fund. There is a pension fund through the city and it is a monetary fund and we are covered by social security.

This fund is for anyone who is part of the association.

**Senator Krebsbach** : We will hold until next week.

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2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2266

Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 02/07/03

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
Tape 1		x	415-550

Committee Clerk Signature

Minutes:

Senator Karen Krebsbach, Chairman reopens SB 2266.

Senator Krebsbach: We held this bill to wait for the employees benefit committee to meet and take a look at this. The committee gave this bill an okay to remove cap. We felt comfortable to remove language completely. So now it is up to our committee for a discussion.

Senator Nelson moves a Do Pass

Senator Wardner 2nd

6 Yes 0 no

carrier: Senator Nelson

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10/21/03  
Date



REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)  
February 10, 2003 10:48 a.m.

Module No: SR-25-2093  
Carrier: Nelson  
Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE  
SB 2266: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Sen. Krebsbach, Chairman)  
recommends DO PASS (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2266  
was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

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SR-25-2093

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*12/21/03*  
Date

2003 HOUSE GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

SR 2266

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2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2266

House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 3-07-03

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	x		22.5-36.5
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Judy Renke</i>			

Minutes: Chairman Klein; called the hearing to order on SB 2266. All committee members were present.

Senator Christenson; appeared giving testimony in favor of SB 2266. This fund is sometimes known as the Widows and Orphans Fund. This is a bill about money because it is about relief funds but its more a bill about generosity. Our fire fighters are our heroes no question about that they always have been and they always will be. They are granted or given so much money and out of that they have established a relief fund. This is over and above to help out orphans and widows. This is something fire fighters do for their fellows, I think this is a very admirable thing. What happened in the early 70's is a cap was placed on the amount of money the state can give each month as part of its relief fund and it was set at \$200.00 and over the years the fund has grown enormously it is financially very sound, and these gentlemen want the right to raise the amount of money that they can reasonably give. They have BI laws they have guide lines, and

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10/21/03  
Date



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House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee  
Bill/Resolution Number SB 2266  
Hearing Date 3-07-03

certainly not going to give more than they can afford but would like the permission to give as much as they can. And I find that an act of generosity and caring for their fellow fire fighters.  
Kerry Foy, Captian, Fire Department, Grand Forks: appeared and was in favor of the bill SB 2266.

Representative Klein: who is the association that put together these by-laws?

Kerry Foy: members of the fire department who after one year are allowed to join with a \$10.00 initiation fee, the last time we did the laws was sometime in the mid 80's with the help of a local attorney. We have an audit every two years

Representative Williams: how do you acquire these funds?

Kerry Foy: refunds from the state insurance fire and peril.

Representative Grande: the fire fighters have a very unique situation and that by law if they want to have a retirement program they have to come through us, they have to set up the plans through us and they are set up completely different than any retirement that we are used to and the best way is to find that part in code and I don't have it in front of me but you can see the different types of layouts to go with it. Their organization has done a really nice job of coming forward to the Employee Benefits Committee when they get laid out on how much money is in their plan and where they are at. This fund is going to be held at a certain dollar amount that we don't have to worry about them dropping below.

Representative Sitte: made a **DO PASS** motion on SB 2266.

Representative Potter: **SECOND** the do pass motion.

**VOTE: 14-YES 0-NO 0-ABSENT.**

Representative Winrich: will carry the bill to the floor.

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10/21/03  
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House Government and Veterans Affairs Committee  
Bill/Resolution Number SB 2266  
Hearing Date 3-07-03  
Meeting adjourned.

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Date: 3-07-03

Roll Call Vote #:

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTE  
SENATE BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2266

House GOVERNMENT AND VETERANS AFFAIRS Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken Do Pass

Motion Made By Rep. Sitte Seconded By Rep. Potter

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman M.M. Klein	X		B. Amerman	X	
Vice Chairman B.B. Grande	X		L. Potter	X	
W.R. Devlin	X		C. Williams	X	
C.B. Haas	X		L. Winrich	X	
J. Kasper	X				
L.R. Klemin	X				
L. Meier	X				
M. Sitte	X				
W.W. Tieman	X				
R.H. Wikenheiser	X				

Total (Yes) 14 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Rep. Winrich

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

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Date 10/21/03

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)**  
March 7, 2003 11:41 a.m.

Module No: HR-41-4213  
Carrier: Winrich  
Insert LC: . Title: .

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**  
**SB 2266: Government and Veterans Affairs Committee (Rep. M. Klein, Chairman)**  
recommends **DO PASS** (14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2266  
was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

HR-41-4213

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2003 TESTIMONY

SB 2266

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10/21/03  
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**REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL'S  
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAMS COMMITTEE  
SENATE BILL NO. 2266**

**Sponsors:** Senator Linda Christenson

**Proposal:** Removes the \$200 per month limitation on service pensions paid by a Firefighters Relief Association.

**Actuarial Analysis:** The actuarial consultant for the Grand Forks Fire Department Relief Association state fund reported that the assets of the fund exceed the actuarial present value of all anticipated future benefits by \$730,750.

**Committee Report:** Favorable recommendation.

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