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Pension Updates



THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL
EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS

Update No. 59

If you've missed any past updates, they're [available on our website](#).

The Fight for a budget target

To successfully achieve a workers' pension benefit improvement through state investment rather than employee contributions, we need legislative leadership to grant the LCPR a budget target that includes ongoing funding. Please use this [easy email tool](#) to contact legislative leadership and personalize the message to include why this is important to you.

March TRA meeting yields no progress

The TRA board met on Wednesday and began by discussing next year's TRA meeting calendar and trustee professional development. Next, they received trustee education, received an update on proposed legislation for TRA plan improvements at the Legislature and discussed the board's path forward. Specifically, TRA staff shared they have discussed with legislators that the board is interested in acceleration of the NRA 65 change but also have not sought out legislation. The board took no other actions around potential legislation, support for current proposals, answering the unknowns of current proposals or specifics on pursuing legislation. You can find the recording of the meeting on the [Education Minnesota Pension Advocacy Network](#).



Rep. Dan Wolgamott is at Minnesota State Capitol.

5d · Saint Paul · 🌐

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I'm fired up to fix teacher pensions after rallying with over 1500 educators at the Capitol!

Now is the time to take the next step of equitable educator pension reform. We need to pass my bill allowing educators the flexibility to retire between the ages of 58-62 without losing a significant amount of their pension.

Strong pensions = strong schools!



Pension rally review

The Pension rally made a huge splash at the Capitol, and legislators are still talking about it. If you missed it, please watch the rally recording [here](#). With dozens of legislators attending an event and hearing from hundreds of educators, we continue to make the best case we can for pension improvements this year.

Coverage of the rally:

- Hometown Source - [Teachers rally for pension improvements](#)
- Mankato Free Press - [Local teachers rally for improved pension benefits in St. Paul](#)
- KSTP - [Teachers to rally at state Capitol for overhaul of pension program](#)
- WCCO - [Teachers rally at the Capitol seeking better pensions](#)
- CBS News - [Educators to rally at the Capitol today](#)

LCPR on Monday

The LCPR will be hearing the first educator-focused bill this Monday.

[HF4656/SF4759](#) is a smaller bill that allows student loan payments to count as 403b contributions. To keep track of LCPR action, agendas and meeting recordings, please refer to the [LCPR website](#).

Monthly Zooms for Pension Action Leaders

Are you an Education Minnesota member and a pension building rep, an action leader or an active advocate? Please join us for our monthly Zoom updates! We'll give you pension action items, resources and legislative news that will be helpful in your efforts. The next update is Tuesday, April 2, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. [Sign up here!](#)

Action items

This legislative session, we'll continue to post our growing list of resources at the end of each Pension Update. As you communicate about pension advocacy in your workplace, please share these resources with members who wish to get engaged.

- Check out our [one-pager](#) on bills this year! Feel free to distribute to your local colleagues.
- Use our [easy action form](#) to reach out to your State Representative, asking them to sign on in support of the Penalty Reduction Bill! We need 35 co-authors to have the best chance to make this change!
- [Sign up](#) for the Pension Updates e-newsletter and read previous newsletters [here](#).
- [Sign up to be a Pension Action Leader](#) and we'll contact you about action items and advocacy to your state legislators. We need a PAL in every local and legislative district!
- Use our [easy action form](#) to contact legislative leadership asking for their support of state investment for pension improvements.
- Join the [members-only Pension Advocacy Network private Facebook group](#), which is the best place to get updates, stay involved and ask questions.
- Watch our Pension 101 and Penalty Reduction Bill sessions on [MEA Online](#).
- We encourage all members to [make an appointment](#) with TRA to discuss what your benefit currently looks like and what options you have.
- Use [this flyer](#), [this flyer](#) and [this flyer](#) to communicate with your colleagues about the pension movement.
- Request a stack of [pension postcards](#) by emailing us at pensions@edmn.org. These postcards can act as a great tool for members to write to their legislators.



Photo credit: MN House Photography, Michele Jokinen

