

Michael Paymar
State Representative

District 64B
Ramsey County



Minnesota House of Representatives

COMMITTEES: CHAIR, PUBLIC SAFETY FINANCE DIVISION
FINANCE
PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY AND OVERSIGHT
CIVIL JUSTICE
CRIME VICTIM SUBCOMMITTEE

March 4, 2009

Julie Bleyhl
AFSCME Council 5
300 Hardman Ave S, Ste 3
South St. Paul, MN 55075-2470

Dear Ms. Bleyhl:

On March 2, 2009 I introduced House File 1279. As Chair of the House Public Safety Finance Committee, every two years I am required to introduce a bill providing funding for Minnesota's Correction's Department, its Courts, and the Department of Public Safety. The finance chairs often introduce the bill jackets provided to us by the Governor's Office. These bill jackets include the budget recommendations put forth by the Governor's Office. While it appears I am the author of Governor Pawlenty's recommendation to move the non-security employees from the Corrections Early Retirement Plan (CERP) and place these employees into the state's general employee's retirement plan – **I am NOT in support of this proposal. In several weeks I will be offering my budget recommendations and the elimination of CERP will not be included in this proposal.**

The Corrections Early Retirement Plan is a promised benefit to 2,855 staff members and I am in support of continuing this benefit for these employees.

For your review, I have included the recently completed amendment that documents my intent to remove this provision from House File 1279. This amendment can also be viewed by visiting our committee website at <http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/comm/committee.asp?comm=86122>.

I appreciate your patience with the legislative process. If you have not already done so, I encourage you to contact Governor Pawlenty's office and inform him of your opposition to this proposal. Please call his office at 651.296.3391. I also welcome your ideas for dealing with the \$4.6 billion budget the state is facing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Paymar".

Michael Paymar
State Representative



1 REP PAYMAR moves to amend H. F. No. 1279, as follows:

2 Page 10, after line 10, insert:

3 “Sec. 2. **Correctional state employee retirement plans; legislative findings.** The
4 legislature finds that:

5 (1) there has been insufficient analysis of correctional state employee retirement plans to
6 justify amendments to the plans during this biennium;

7 (2) amendments to the plans in future biennia should apply prospectively and not adversely
8 affect employees who are participating in the plans at the time of the amendments; and

9 (3) before any amendments are made to the plans that the commissioner of corrections
10 should submit a report to the legislature that includes proposed amendments to the plans
11 and stakeholder responses to the proposed amendments.

12 Page 10, delete Article 3

13 Page 11, delete Article 4

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