

March 19, 2024

Minnesota House
State Office Building, Labor and Industry Finance and Policy Committee
100 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Chair Nelson and Members of the House Labor and Industry Finance and Policy Committee,

As three members of the University of Minnesota Board of Regents, we are writing to express our strong support for the proposed amendments to the Public Employment Labor Relations Act (PELRA) in Minnesota. These amendments are not only vital for the equitable treatment of our university's employees but also for the overall well-being of our institution and its stakeholders.

Contrary to any concerns that may arise, the proposed changes to PELRA will not negatively impact the University of Minnesota. In fact, these amendments will bring about positive changes that will benefit our entire university community. By ensuring fair and equitable collective bargaining processes, these changes will reduce the financial burden on our students, improve the working conditions of our instructors, alleviate staff burnout, and promote consistency and fairness in wages and working conditions across all five of our campuses.

It is important to emphasize that the University of Minnesota is well-equipped to handle normal processes for collective bargaining. These proposed amendments will only serve to enhance our ability to foster a supportive and inclusive working environment for all members of our university community. By aligning PELRA with modern labor practices, we can further our commitment to excellence in education and research while prioritizing the well-being and rights of our employees.

In conclusion, we urge you to support the proposed amendments to PELRA. These changes are not only necessary for the advancement of labor rights but also for the continued success of the University of Minnesota. Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to your support.

Sincerely,



Robyn Gulley
University of Minnesota Regent


James Farnsworth (Mar 19, 2024 09:10 CDT)

James Farnsworth
University of Minnesota Regent



Mary Turner
University of Minnesota Regent