



Retired Firefighters of Washington

9134 207th PI SW
Edmonds, WA 98026
425-775-9080
mwarbrouck@comcast.net

Richard C. Warbrouck
President

November 12, 2018

RECEIVED

NOV 13 2018

Senator Steve Conway
Chair Select Committee on Pension Policy

Office of the State Actuary

Dear Senator Conway,

There are four statutes creating firefighter and law enforcement officer Pension and Disability Boards:

- RCW 41.16
- RCW 41.18
- RCW 41.20
- RCW 41.26

RCW 41.18 covers both city and fire district boards. RCW 41.26 covers both city and county boards.

The language stipulating who serves on these boards and the qualifying language for fire and law enforcement officer representatives on the board is not uniform and confusing to some.

We respectfully request the Select Committee on Pension Policy to submit a Housekeeping Bill to create more uniform language regarding the qualifications for elected member representatives.

These boards have worked well in the past. We are currently having difficulty in staffing some of these boards.

In the City of Edmonds, Washington we have no LEOFF I firefighters to serve on a Prior Act, RCW 41.18 fire board. There are no firefighters in the City of Edmonds to serve on the board because the City has contracted out its fire service to Snohomish County Fire District 1. The firefighters serving the City of Edmonds are employees of Snohomish County Fire District 1 and not eligible to serve on the City of Edmonds Pension Board under RCW 41.16, RCW. 41.18.

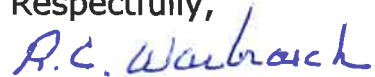
This has resulted in a lawsuit against the City of Edmonds by a retired City of Edmonds firefighter regarding his retirement salary and retroactive pay.

Due to the difficulty in filling some of the board positions we request the Select Committee on Pension Policy to put forth a bill to broaden the eligibility for fire and law enforcement representatives to serve on the board.

We request that the statutes be amended to stipulate that any employed or retired firefighter or law enforcement officer living in the jurisdiction of the board be eligible for election to the board.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Respectfully,



Richard C. Warbrouck
President Retired Firefighters of Washington