

Washington State Senate

Olympia Address: 109 Irv Newhouse Building Olympia, WA 98504-0425

Senator Hans Zeiger 25th Legislative District

Office: (360) 786-7648 Hans.Zeiger@leg.wa.gov

February 24, 2019

Select Committee on Pension Policy P.O. Box 40914 Olympia, WA 98504 RECEIVED

MAR 8 2019

Office School State Actuary

Dear Committee Members:

A constituent who is a Code Enforcement Officer recently let me know about a discrepancy in the pension program offered to Limited Commission Officers.

Currently, Limited Commission Officers' pensions fall under public employee retirement rather than the law enforcement retirement, even though they do many of the same duties as other law enforcement officers. Under certain RCWs, including the statute that defines law enforcement officers, Limited Commission Officers meet the criteria and are sometimes recognized as such.

As for their job description LCO's issue tickets, prosecute individuals, and enforce and investigate violations of limited subject areas of local codes. They are exposed to many of the same situations and must deal with many of the same hazards as other law enforcement officers.

The inclusion of several different job categories jobs under the Washington State Public Safety Employees Retirement System is not unprecedented. Corrections officers and park rangers are currently covered under PSERS and have been for over a decade.

I believe that it is time to include Limited Commission Officers under the PSERS program and would ask you consider and study this issue during the 2019 legislative interim.

Thank you very much for your consideration. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to my office.

Sincerely

Hans Zeiger

State Senator, 25th District

® **4** 1