

## Chris O'Brien

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**From:** AnnMarie Denelle <adenelle@tivertonschools.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 22, 2025 11:52 AM  
**To:** House Finance Committee  
**Subject:** H6238

I am writing in support of the bill H-6238 that the House of Representatives Finance Committee is slated to hear today 4.22.2025.

As a public school employee since 1997 I am impacted by the multiple changes to the pension system that have taken place since I began my career.

I have served as a school social worker for 28 years, I am soon to turn 60 years old and retirement is something I expected to do after 30 years. It simply isn't possible for me to afford to retire.

I am requesting that the finance committee take the right action to support retirees and those still working by passing this bill and I expect that all legislatures will be working diligently on additional legislation that will restore a fair and just pension system.

Attracting new people to work in public education is a struggle at this time and much of that is related to pay and benefits such as pensions, COLA's and health care.

When I started my career my pension was to be 80% of my salary after 30 years. It is now reduced to 30% and I cannot retire and expect to live on such a drastically reduced pension.

I have a few years into social security from previous years of employment in the private sector, my district does not pay in to social security.

There are several thousands of RI people impacted by the pension system changes who have worked tirelessly in the educational system and we have been given the short end of the stick. This needs to be rectified and the bill in front of you today is one step in the process of reforming the system.

Please pass this legislation and support those of us that have been affected by the unfair changes over the past few decades to our pensions.

Sincerely,

Ann Marie Denelle  
**Ann Marie Denelle**  
**School Social Worker**  
**Tiverton Public Schools**  
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