

## Chris O'Brien

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**From:** SHIRLEY ORTIZ <shirley.ortiz@providenceschools.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 15, 2026 6:18 PM  
**To:** House Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Support for the 90% Rule for Teachers (2023-H-5092 / 2023-S86)

**Categories:** Red category

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Dear Representative,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed 90% rule for teachers in bills 2023-H-5092 and 2023-S86.

These bills represent a necessary improvement for currently employed public workers, particularly teachers who have been significantly affected by past retirement changes and often contribute a large share toward their own pensions. In many cases, they do not participate in Social Security, making these adjustments especially important.

The rule of 90 would also provide valuable flexibility in retirement planning, bringing public sector benefits more in line with private sector options. Just as importantly, it could help address ongoing staff shortages by making teaching positions more attractive and sustainable.

Finally, this proposal appears to be a reasonable and affordable step, with manageable projected costs relative to its benefits for employees and the broader education system.

I respectfully urge you to support 2023-H-5092 and 2023-S86. Thank you for your time and service.

Sincerely,

Shirley Ortiz

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