S.F. No. 2957 and H.F. No. 3136, which had been referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison, were examined and found to be not identical.

The following document shows the differences between S.F. No. 2957, the first engrossment, and H.F. No. 3136, as introduced.

Patrick D. Murphy
Chief Clerk, House of Representatives
February 17, 2022

**Explanation of Comparison Reports**

When a Senate File is received from the Senate, it is given its first reading and must be referred to the appropriate standing committee or division under Rule 1.11. But if the House File companion of that Senate File has already been reported out of Committee and given its second reading and is on the General Register, the Senate File must be referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison pursuant to Rule 1.15. The Chief Clerk reports whether the bills were found to be identical or not identical. Once the bills have been compared and the differences have been reported, the Senate File is given its second reading and is substituted for the House File. The House File is then considered withdrawn. Pursuant to rule 3.33, if the bills are not identical and the chief author of the bill wishes to use the House language, the chief author must give notice of their intent to substitute the House language when the bill is placed on the Calendar for the Day or the Fiscal Calendar. If the chief author of the bill wishes to keep the Senate language, no action is required.
A bill for an act relating to retirement; Minnesota State Retirement System; Public Employees Retirement Association; permitting payment of retirement annuities during employment as a health care worker; amending Laws 2020, chapter 79, article 5, section 1.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Laws 2020, chapter 79, article 5, section 1, is amended to read:

(1) "health care worker" means a person, whether licensed or unlicensed, employed by a public employer during a peacetime emergency to provide health care, health-care-related services, or long-term care;

(2) "peacetime emergency" means any peacetime emergency declared by the governor in an executive order that relates to the infectious disease known as COVID-19;

(3) "phased retirement agreement" means an agreement described in Minnesota Statutes, section 353.371, between an employee, who is at least age 62, and the employee's public employer;

(4) "reemployment year" means the 12-month period that a person is covered by a phased retirement agreement under Minnesota Statutes, section 353.371, between an employee, who is at least age 62, and the employee's public employer;

(5) "retiree" means a person who is retired or was considered retired under a pension plan administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association or the Minnesota State Retirement System and is receiving or is about to begin receiving a retirement annuity from such a pension plan. A person who has terminated public service covered by the pension plan administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association or the Minnesota State Retirement System and is receiving or is about to begin receiving a retirement annuity from any other employer participating in a pension plan administered by the Minnesota State Retirement System or the Public Employees Retirement Association.

PERMITTING PAYMENT OF RETIREMENT ANNUITY DURING A PEACETIME EMERGENCY.

Subdivision 1. Definitions. For purposes of this section:

(1) "health care worker" means a person, whether licensed or unlicensed, employed by a public employer during a peacetime emergency to provide health care, health-care-related services, or long-term care;

(2) "peacetime emergency" means any peacetime emergency declared by the governor in an executive order that relates to the infectious disease known as COVID-19;

(3) "phased retirement agreement" means an agreement described in Minnesota Statutes, section 353.371, between an employee, who is at least age 62, and the employee's public employer;

(4) "reemployment year" means the 12-month period that a person is covered by a phased retirement agreement under Minnesota Statutes, section 353.371, between an employee, who is at least age 62, and the employee's public employer;

(5) "retiree" means a person who is retired or was considered retired under a pension plan administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association or the Minnesota State Retirement System and is receiving or is about to begin receiving a retirement annuity from such a pension plan. A person who has terminated public service covered by the pension plan administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association or the Minnesota State Retirement System and is receiving or is about to begin receiving a retirement annuity from any other employer participating in a pension plan administered by the Minnesota State Retirement System or the Public Employees Retirement Association.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Laws 2020, chapter 79, article 5, section 1, is amended to read:

(1) "health care worker" means a person, whether licensed or unlicensed, employed by a public employer during a peacetime emergency to provide health care, health-care-related services, or long-term care; including any person who provides operational support to a direct patient care environment.

(2) "peacetime emergency" means any peacetime emergency declared by the governor in an executive order that relates to the infectious disease known as COVID-19;

(3) "phased retirement agreement" means an agreement described in Minnesota Statutes, section 353.371, between an employee, who is at least age 62, and the employee's public employer;

(4) "reemployment year" means the 12-month period that a person is covered by a phased retirement agreement under Minnesota Statutes, section 353.371, or in a reemployment year under Minnesota Statutes, section 43A.346; and

(5) "retiree" means a person who is retired or was considered retired under a pension plan administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association or the Minnesota State Retirement System and is receiving or is about to begin receiving a retirement annuity from any other employer participating in a pension plan administered by the Minnesota State Retirement System or the Public Employees Retirement Association.
plan and has satisfied the conditions to begin receiving a retirement annuity is considered a retiree.

**Subd. 1a. Health care workers to continue receiving retirement annuity.** Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a person who is receiving a retirement annuity and is employed by a public employer as a health care worker on or after March 13, 2020, must continue to receive the retirement annuity as provided in subdivision 2 or 3, as applicable, and the person's annuity must not be suspended or reduced due to employment as a health care worker. A person is considered employed as a health care worker on or after March 13, 2020, if the person was hired by a public employer before March 13, 2020, and the person was a health care worker on or after March 13, 2020.

**Subd. 2. Health care workers to continue receiving retirement annuities.** No earnings limitations or annuity reduction or suspension for retirees. (a) A retiree must continue or begin to receive a retirement annuity if the retiree:

- (1) is receiving a retirement annuity and has not been employed in public service for at least 30 days or has been retired for at least 30 days and is about to begin receiving a retirement annuity from any of the pension plans administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association or from any of the pension plans administered by the Minnesota State Retirement System;

- (2) is hired or rehired by a public employer as a health care worker on or after the effective date of a declaration of a peacetime emergency.

(a) A retiree must continue or begin to receive a retirement annuity if the retiree would otherwise be entitled to continue or begin to receive a retirement annuity had the person not become employed by a public employer as a health care worker.

(b) A person described in paragraph (a) retiree is not subject to the provisions of Minnesota Statutes, section 352.115, subdivision 10, or 353.37, including any provisions that limit the number of hours or percentage of time worked, salary earned, or any other pay of any kind, and the monthly amount of the pensioner's retirement annuity shall not change or be reduced as a result of employment during a peacetime emergency covered by this section, notwithstanding the additional hours and higher percentage of time worked, salary earned, or any other pay of any kind by the person.

(c) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a public employer may hire or rehire a person retiree under this subdivision section without violating the public employer or the person retiree having to enter into or comply with the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, section 43A.346 or 353.371.

**Subd. 3. No limitation on hours or percentage of time worked or duration of employment under a postretirement option.** (a) A health care worker person described...
Subd. 3. No limitation on hours or percentage of time worked or duration of employment under a postretirement option. (a) A health care worker person described in subdivision 1a who enters into a phased retirement agreement under Minnesota Statutes, section 353.371, before, on, or after the effective date of this section, or has been employed in a postretirement option position under Minnesota Statutes, section 43A.346, before the effective date of this section, or who enters into a phased retirement agreement or continues employment in the postretirement option position, as applicable, if the health care worker elects to continue employment, subject to the consent of the public employer, after the expiration date in subdivision 4, shall be subject to any limitation on the number of hours or percentage of time worked, salary earned, any other pay of any kind, or duration of employment imposed by Minnesota Statutes, section 43A.346 or 353.371, as applicable, during any reemployment year that includes the date on which this section expires.

(b) Upon the expiration of a peacetime emergency, the health care worker shall must continue to be covered by the phased retirement agreement or continue employment in the postretirement option position, as applicable, if the health care worker elects to continue employment, subject to the consent of the public employer, after the reemployment year that includes the date on which this section expires, January 1, 2026.

3.30 The period of employment during a peacetime emergency shall covered by this section may be added to and shall extend the period of employment governed by the phased retirement agreement under Minnesota Statutes, section 353.371, subdivision 4, or in a postretirement option position under Minnesota Statutes, section 43A.346, subdivision 6, as applicable, if elected by the health care worker, with the consent of the public employer, during a peacetime emergency employment covered by this section. The monthly amount of the health care worker's retirement annuity shall not change be reduced or suspended as a result of such employment during a peacetime emergency, notwithstanding any increase in the hours and percentage of time worked by the health care worker.

3.31 (a) The requirements of Minnesota Statutes, sections 43A.346 and 353.371, prohibiting the crediting of additional service toward the health care worker's annuity and prohibiting the making of employee or employer contributions during employment covered by a phased retirement agreement or in a postretirement option position, as applicable, shall apply during a peacetime emergency employment covered by this section. The monthly amount of the health care worker's retirement annuity shall not change be reduced or suspended as a result of such employment during a peacetime emergency, notwithstanding any increase in the hours and percentage of time worked by the health care worker.

3.32 (b) Nothing in this section shall be considered as terminating (1) a phased retirement agreement under Minnesota Statutes, section 353.371, or (2) the employment of a health care worker in a postretirement option position under Minnesota Statutes, section 43A.346.

3.33 Subd. 4. Expiration date. This section expires on December 31 of the year in which the peacetime emergency expires or is terminated or rescinded by proper authority. 2025.

3.34 EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective retroactively from May 13, 2020.