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Dear Senator Miner and members of the Appropriations Committee,

The purpose of this letter is to go on record at March 26, 2021 public hearing on *Raised SB 1080 addresses revisions to the Teachers Retirement System* and petition the Appropriations Committee to approve the addition of a third retired teacher to the Connecticut Teachers' Retirement Board. Given that in 2020 there were approximately 50,000 active teachers and 38,000 retired teachers in Connecticut, the addition of a retired teacher on the board would realize a more equitable retired/active teacher representative ratio. As you are well aware, currently there are four active and two retired teachers on the TRB.

We are retired public school educators who have chosen to live in Connecticut when several of our former colleagues have moved to other states with lower taxes and fewer retirement restrictions. The challenges that retired teachers in Connecticut face include but are not limited to Social Security barriers, health insurance inequities among retirees and the unfulfilled windfall tax exclusion.

Thank you for considering our request.

Yours truly,

Robert and Patricia Groeschner