

Chairman Tipping and Chairperson Roeder, other members of the Labor Committee, I am Representative Kenneth W. Fredette and I am here to advocate for passage of LD 794, An Act to Include Judicial Marshals in the 1998 Special Plan for Retirement.

As you all know, recruiting and retaining people to work in specialized fields is difficult today. As an attorney, I am aware of the shortage of Judicial Marshals in our Judicial Branch. I am personally aware of days when there is a shortage of Judicial Marshals that the Court must cancel hearing for that day, and making up those days is already difficult in a Judicial Branch that the Chief Justice recently told the Joint Convention, is "not great."

By allowing Judicial Marshals to join the 1998 Special Plan for Retirement, I believe that this will help the Judicial Branch recruit and retain these good folks, and provide you with this bill as a vehicle to consider addressing this issue in our Judicial System.

Thank you for your time on this matter.