



Taxpayers United of America

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April 16, 2012

Honorable Mark Dayton
130 State Capitol
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Government Employee Pension Reform

Dear Governor Dayton,

I am Vice President of Taxpayers United of America (TUA), one of the largest taxpayer organizations in the U.S.

In the past year, we of TUA have travelled to many states to research and publicize government employee pensions. We have often found that government pensions are higher than private sector salaries!

I applaud your policy statement on better government:

“...We need *to save money, reduce waste, and make government work better for people.* We need to build a state that works for all Minnesotans.”

I couldn't agree more. And that cannot be accomplished until pension reforms include:

- Placing all new hires in a defined contribution system with Social Security.
- Increasing contributions of current employees by as much as 10%.

Employees should be paid fairly for the work they do today, allowing them to save for their own retirement. Profit generating private sector businesses have all but abandoned the defined benefit system for good reason; the math just doesn't work.

Municipalities and taxpayers need relief **today**, which will only come by increasing contributions of current government employees.

It would be greatly appreciated if you would have your staff contact me, so we can discuss how TUA can be of assistance in advancing these reforms.

Thank you,

Christina Tobin, Vice President