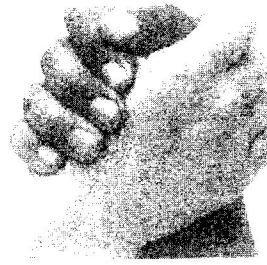


TWIN VALLEY DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES, INC.

...working to enhance the lives of the citizens we serve.



Workshop, Residential,
& Independent Living

785 / 747-2251
785 / 747-2254 - Fax

413 Commercial St.
P.O. Box 42
Greenleaf
Kansas 66943-0042

RE: SB210

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this testimony to support SB210. Our small agency, Twin Valley Developmental Services, Inc., serving folks with developmental disabilities, were able to become a KPERS agency some 25 years ago. For many years it was, not only a great benefit, but a great recruiting tool.

But times have changed. These new, younger staff we hire seem to not have any interest in a KPERS type retirement plan. And, like most agencies of our type, we have a very high turnover! We hire a total of 70 staff and experience 10 to 20 hires every year.

We believe by delaying their ability to enter KPERS by two years it will benefit both our agency and KPERS. When a new hire comes on board we have to immediately sign them up for KPERS. Then, if they quit within the first 2 years, most withdraw any KPERS built up funds. This creates tons of paperwork for our HR department and likewise, for KPERS. By delaying for 2 years it would eliminate this waste of time for both! Plus it would save our agency over \$10,000 in costs each year for this whole process to take place. So passage of SB210 would assist us and KPERS immensely!

Also, while you are doing this, you might consider easing the tough penalty we pay for our staff who retire and then return to work. We have had to rehire several of these staff, and have 10 at this time. This is due to our lack of ability to fill all our direct service staff positions! We are charged 8.89% by KPERS for these folks on the first \$25,000 in wages and then it jumps to 30% after that. Again, our agency and the consumers would be at high risk if we didn't hire these folks to get us by in our direct services area. Easing those penalties could again save us another \$10,000 to \$20,000 per year.

Again, thanks for your time and hope you will consider passage of SB210 as a very good move for all parties involved!

Respectfully,

Ed Henry
CEO

Twin Valley Developmental Services, Inc.