

Testimony Of Mark Myrick, Resident Supervisor at DOCR on

Expedited Bill 33-21 Personnel - Employee's Retirement System - Group E – Amendments

Good morning, my name is Mark Myrick and I've been a resident supervisor in the Montgomery County Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation for the past 19 years and I have been with the DOCR for a total of 21 years. I am also a shop steward with our union, UFCW Local 1994 MCGEO.

I am testifying here today on behalf of myself and my fellow officers at DOCR who've been excluded from the County Employee Retirement System's Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) program.

The DROP program was instituted to help retain experienced staff and ensure continuity of operations. For years, other sworn officers in the County have been able to participate in the DROP program. Just a few short years ago, the County moved some of the officers at DOCR into the program but excluded DOCR's resident supervisors.

Our exclusion is unfair and a fix to this oversight is long overdue.

Bill 33-21, Personnel - Employee's Retirement System - would bring parity with other DOCR officers in retirement options. There is no justifiable reason to omit resident supervisors from this program. We must participate in the same training as other DOCR officers. We go to the same training academy, have the same continuing education requirements, have the same physical fitness requirements, and work with the same population.

In fact, our jobs require more public interaction than other DOCR officers, as we are required to monitor persons on home confinement and to visit outside workplaces to check on inmates. We also cover electronic monitoring and while still doing much of the same work as other DOCR officers in house.

Bill 33-21 would correct the unjust exclusion of resident supervisors and, to the county's benefit, is actually cost neutral.

I urge you to pass Bill 33-21. Thank you.