



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
**STATE SENATOR**  
**MICHAEL O. MOORE**  
SECOND WORCESTER DISTRICT  
State House, Room 518, Boston, MA 02133 (617) 722-1485

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## **Senator Michael O. Moore Announces State Pension Reform**

(Boston) – Senator Michael O. Moore (D-Millbury) is pleased to announce that on Tuesday, the Senate voted unanimously to approve a bill that will tie off loopholes in current pension laws in an effort to end abuses and save taxpayer money.

“Reforming the pension system is an important step in the right direction” said Moore. “Abuses have gone on for too long and, although most public employees play by the rules, it was time to revise this broken system, save taxpayers money, gain public trust and restore credibility.”

The state’s pension system is an important benefit for state workers who chose generally low-paying careers in public service over the private sector. The average pension for Massachusetts public employees is approximately \$24,000 a year. There are examples, however, of individuals who exploit loopholes to increase pension payments at a high cost to the state.

The Senate legislation is just the beginning of important fixes to state pension laws. The bill also directs the currently-established Blue Ribbon Commission on Pension Reform to review broader issues within the system, such as capping large pension payments, and make comprehensive reform recommendations to the Legislature by September 1, 2009.