

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 5920

As of November 3, 2020

Title: An act relating to firefighters and law enforcement officers pension and disability boards.

Brief Description: Concerning firefighters and law enforcement officers pension and disability boards.

Sponsors: Senators Conway, Bailey, Keiser and Schoesler.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Ways & Means: 2/18/19, 2/25/19 [w/oRec, DP].

Brief Summary of Bill

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SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, WATER, NATURAL RESOURCES & PARKS

Staff: Karen Epps (786-7424)

Background:

Pre-Law Enforcement Officers' and Firefighters' Retirement System Plan 1 Pension Boards. Before the implementation of the Law Enforcement Officers' and Firefighters' Retirement System Plan 1 (LEOFF 1) in 1970, law enforcement and firefighter pensions were administered by local pension boards. Firefighter pension boards are made of five members, including three ex officio city or county officials and two active or retired firefighters of that pension system. Law enforcement officer pension boards are made up of seven

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members, including four ex officio city or county officials and three active or retired member of the police department of that pension system. Member representatives are elected to the boards by a majority of the voting active and retired members of that pension system.

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The first paragraph should be on the same line following "Background:" It appears to drop it down a line if the "Paste as Text button is not turned on,

Law Enforcement Officers' and Firefighters' Retirement System Plan 1 Disability Boards. LEOFF 1 provides retirement and disability benefits to law enforcement officers and firefighters who entered eligible employment between 1969 and 1977. Under LEOFF 1, the employer is responsible for paying all necessary medical services for members and retirees. Pension benefits are administered statewide by the Department of Retirement Systems (DRS).

Summary of Bill: The eligibility of who can serve on a firefighters or law enforcement officers pension or disability board is expanded to include active or retired firefighters or law enforcement officers not under the jurisdiction of that board residing in the district. Eligibility is only expanded when no eligible firefighter and law enforcement officer is willing or able to to be elected. This would include members of LEOFF 2 and firefighters working for a regional fire protection service authority.

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Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.