



Oregon

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Public Employees Retirement System

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GASB No. 68

Request: Create statutory authority for PERS to recover the administrative cost of providing state and local government partners with standardized, audited actuarial data in order to comply with GASB No. 68 reporting standards.

Problem: The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has released new standards for how governments should report pensions on their books or income statements (GASB No. 68). After June 2014, state and local governments will need to distinguish several separate pension calculations that will be derived in different manners for distinct purposes. The new reporting standards should improve the transparency, consistency, and comparability of pension information reported by state and local governments and pension plans.

PERS serves 900+ employers in the state and in order to comply with GASB No. 68 reporting requirements, each employer will need comprehensive, audited, and individualized data regarding their participation in the plan. These additional information requests may create substantial actuarial and auditing costs for PERS.

The PERS Board currently lacks authority to collect or expend funds to pay for administrative expenses associated with providing this information to state and local government partners.

Solution: Establish authority in statute for PERS to recover administrative expenses associated with providing information and services to state and local governments to be used in compliance with GASB No. 68.

To establish this authority, the following statutory language in ORS 238.610(1) may be helpful: “The Public Employees Retirement Board by rule may establish procedures for recovering administrative costs from public employers participating in the system for providing to those employers information or services needed to report in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles. These costs may be funded only from interest earned on employer contributions made under ORS 238.225 or ORS 238A.220.”

GASB Resources: GASB recently issued guidance to pensions and governments about compliance with the new reporting standards. As the guidance is reviewed we will learn more about how to effectively comply with the GASB No. 68 reporting standards. PERS has made some GASB resources available on the Employer website:

http://www.oregon.gov/pers/EMP/Pages/section/er_actuarial_services/GASB-Resource-Page.aspx

Additional guidance and resources are available directly from GASB: <http://www.gasb.org/> OR http://www.gasb.org/cs/ContentServer?c=GASBContent_C&pagename=GASB%2FGASBContent_C%2FGASBNewsPage&cid=1176163790674