

HB 2297 -2 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans

Prepared By: Beverly Schoonover, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires the Public Employees Retirement Board to study retirement credit for military service. Directs board to submit findings to interim committees of the Legislative Assembly no later than September 15, 2024.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

-2 Allows up to three years of retirement credit for active service in the uniformed services for police officers or firefighters who retire from the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS). Specifies that members cannot receive credit for periods of service for which they are already receiving retirement credit through PERS or for service for which they are receiving, or are entitled to receive, a federal military pension or retirement. Requires the PERS Board to adopt rules for the program. Applies to members whose effective date of retirement is on or after the effective date of the measure.

BACKGROUND:

The Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) provides retirement benefits for state agencies and approximately 900 units of local government. PERS is overseen by a five-member board that appoints an executive director to manage the agency's daily operations, including the management of benefits for more than 393,000 active, inactive, and retired members and beneficiaries.

House Bill 2297, as amended with the -2 amendment, allows up to three years of retirement credit for active service in the uniformed services for police officers or firefighters who retire from PERS. To qualify, the active service must occur after January 1, 1950, and the member must be other than dishonorably discharged. Members cannot receive credit for periods of service they are already receiving retirement credit for through PERS or for service they are receiving or entitled to a federal military pension or retirement.