

NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Tentative Agenda

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

Tuesday, April 18, 2006
Harvest Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

9:00 a.m. Call to order
Roll call
Consideration of the minutes of the previous meeting

RETIREMENT PROGRAMS

9:05 a.m. Review of the following bill drafts submitted to the Employee Benefits Programs Committee affecting retirement or health insurance programs and related testimony:

TEACHERS' FUND FOR RETIREMENT (TFFR)

- Bill No. 68 Makes changes to TFFR relating to definitions, federal law changes, employer contributions, service credit purchases, eligibility for and determination of benefits, vesting, early retirement, returning to teaching, and accepting a refund (TFFR)
- Bill No. 84 Increases employer and employee contribution rates to TFFR (Representative Klein)
- Bill No. 67 Changes the conditions under which a retired member of TFFR may return to teach (Representative Klein)
- Bill No. 73 Allows employees of the State Board for Career and Technical Education currently participating in TFFR to participate in the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) (State Board for Career and Technical Education)

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

- Bill No. 75 Changes provisions relating to supplemental retiree benefit payments under PERS (PERS)
- Bill No. 76 Changes provisions of PERS relating to confidentiality, final average salary calculations, payment of delayed retirement benefits, conversion of sick leave, temporary employee purchase of service credit, compliance with the Internal Revenue Code, employer service credit purchases, and automatic refund of account balances (PERS)
- Bill No. 80 Changes provisions of PERS relating to employer contributions and increases for certain retirees' retirement payments (PERS)
- Bill No. 77 Provides for automatic enrollment of employees in the deferred compensation program under PERS (PERS)
- Bill No. 79 Changes the required contribution and monthly credit relating to the retiree health benefits fund (PERS)
- Bill No. 71 Authorizes employees of the North Dakota Association of Counties to participate in PERS, the uniform group insurance program, and the deferred compensation program (Senator Krebsbach)

UNIFORM GROUP INSURANCE PROGRAM

- Bill No. 78 Creates a new trust and prescription drug coverage under the uniform group insurance program and changes provisions relating to the employer payment for unused sick and annual leave, minimum life insurance benefits coverage, retiree health benefits fund, employer payments of a temporary employee's health insurance premium, temporary employee eligibility, and bids for prescription drug coverage (PERS)
- Bill No. 52 Creates a healthy lifestyle program and an employee incentive for not participating in the state health insurance program, provides for an employee health insurance contribution, and precludes state agencies from requesting funding for health insurance premiums for employees who are not enrolled in the uniform group insurance program (Representative Carlson)
- Bill No. 62 Allows public health districts to participate in the uniform group insurance program under the same conditions as a state agency (Representative Price)
- Bill No. 30 Expands the uniform group insurance program to allow participation by members of the North Dakota National Guard (Senator Mathern)
- Bill No. 31 Expands the uniform group insurance program to allow participation by permanent employees of nonprofit organizations (Senator Mathern)
- Bill No. 32 Expands the uniform group insurance program to allow participation by employees of small private sector employers (Senator Mathern)

STATE INVESTMENT BOARD (SIB)

- Bill No. 82 Changes provisions relating to the investment powers of SIB (SIB)

- 11:00 a.m. Presentation by representatives of the Education Standards and Practices Board regarding the process used for determining critical shortage areas for teachers in the state
- 11:20 a.m. Comments by other interested persons regarding retirement and health insurance programs
- 11:40 a.m. Committee discussion regarding retirement and health insurance programs and issues and consideration of committee jurisdiction of bills presented
- 12:00 noon Luncheon recess

STATE EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION STUDY

- 1:00 p.m. Presentation by representatives of the Human Resource Management Services Division of the Office of Management and Budget regarding:
- A summary of significant employee turnover by job type and by agency during the first year of employment
 - A listing of state agencies with human resources departments or human resources directors
 - Information on state employee compensation needs and concerns and suggested solutions
 - Options for the development of a pay for performance compensation system for state employees

- 2:00 p.m. Comments by other interested persons regarding the state employee compensation system study
- 2:30 p.m. Committee discussion and staff directives
- 3:30 p.m. Adjourn

Committee Members

Representatives Matthew M. Klein (Chairman), Al Carlson, Joe Kroeber, Ken Svedjan, Francis J. Wald
Senators Ray Holmberg, Ralph L. Kilzer, Karen K. Krebsbach, Carolyn Nelson