Public Employees Retirement System Senate Bill Nos. 2024, 2013

	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total
2003-05 executive budget (bills as introduced)	29.00	\$0	\$4,400,690	\$4,400,690
2003-05 legislative appropriations	29.00		4,391,158	4,391,158
Legislative increase (decrease) to executive budget	0.00	\$0	(\$9,532)	(\$9,532)
Legislative increase (decrease) to 2001-03 appropriations	2.00	\$0	\$498,668	\$498,668

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET AND MAJOR FUNDING ITEMS

Salaries and Wages

The legislative action affecting the recommended appropriation for the Public Employees Retirement System is in accordance with legislative salary and fringe benefits guidelines as contained in Senate Bill No. 2423, which allows agencies to provide salary increases of up to 1 percent on January 1, 2004, and up to 2 percent on January 1, 2005, to be funded in part from pooled savings accumulated from agency FTE position reductions.

Major Items						
	FTE Positions	General Fund	Other Funds	Total		
The legislative action:						
Removed funding recommended in the executive budget for state employee salary increases			(\$27,363)	(\$27,363)		
Reduced funding recommended in the executive budget for state employee health insurance premiums from \$493 to \$488.70 per month per policy			(2,993)	(2,993)		
Added funding of \$11,832 for health benefits and \$5,992 for a classification change for a new FTE position added to the Public Employees Retirement System, which were inadvertently omitted in the executive budget recommendation			17,824	17,824		
Added funding for implementing Sections 15 through 18 of Senate Bill No. 2013 (See Related Legislation section below)			3,000	3,000		
Total	0.00	\$0	(\$9,532)	(\$9,532)		

FTE Changes

The Legislative Assembly did not change the executive recommendation to add 2 FTE positions, 1 FTE data processing coordinator II and 1 FTE auditor II. The number of FTE positions for the Public Employees Retirement System for the 2003-05 biennium is 29 FTE, 2 FTE more than the 27 FTE authorized for the 2001-03 biennium.

Other Sections in Bill

Appropriation line item transfers - Section 2 provides that the Public Employees Retirement System may transfer from the contingencies line item in Section 1 of the bill to all other line items and the agency shall notify the Office of Management and Budget of each transfer made.

Related Legislation

Job Service retirement plan - House Bill No. 1064 transfers the administrative responsibility for the Job Service retirement plan from Job Service North Dakota to the Public Employees Retirement System Board.

Public employees retirement fund appropriation - Senate Bill No. 2013 provides an appropriation of \$3,000 from the public employees retirement fund to the Public Employees Retirement System for implementing Sections 15 through 18 of Senate Bill No. 2013, relating to participation by nonteaching employees of the Department of Public Instruction in the Public Employees Retirement System.

State peace and correctional officers - Senate Bill No. 2033 allows peace and correctional officers employed by political subdivisions to participate in the National Guard retirement plan.

Employer-based wellness program and confidentiality of records - Senate Bill No. 2060 provides that the Public Employees Retirement Board develop an employer-based wellness program, and provides for the confidentiality of employee records.

Uniform group insurance program - Senate Bill No. 2176 provides that a retiree who accepts a retirement allowance from a participating political subdivision's retirement plan may elect to participate in the uniform group insurance program without meeting minimum requirements at age 65, when the employee's spouse reaches age 65, upon the receipt of a benefit, when the political subdivision joins the uniform group insurance plan if the retiree was a member of the former plan, or when the spouse terminates employment.