
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 59

AN ACT CONCERNING HAZARDOUS DUTY RETIREMENT FOR CERTAIN EMPLOYEES AT THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

SUMMARY:

This bill gives a Tier II state employee hazardous duty status for retirement purposes if he or she (1) is director or assistant director of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection's Emergency Response and Spill Prevention division and (2) makes the same contribution to the state employees' pension system required of other Tier II hazardous duty members for each of his or her credited service years.

The state pays the full retirement contribution for regular Tier II employees but hazardous duty members of Tier II must contribute 4% their salaries to the pension system. Hazardous duty members can generally retire with full benefits at a younger age and with fewer years of service.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014

BACKGROUND

State Retirement Tiers

The state employee pension system has four tiers, based on when an employee began working for the state: Tier I (hired before July 1, 1984), Tier II (hired between July 1, 1984 and July 1, 1997), Tier IIA (hired between July 1, 1997 and July 1, 2011), and Tier III (hired after July 1, 2011). Tiers IIA and III are not defined in statute. A collective bargaining agreement gives them the same benefits as Tier II, but requires them to make a greater contribution to the pension system and sets different retirement eligibility requirements, among other things.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 10 Nay 1 (03/04/2014)