



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 71

February Session, 2014

House Bill No. 5281

House of Representatives, March 24, 2014

The Committee on Labor and Public Employees reported through REP. TERCYAK of the 26th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING MEMBERS OF THE DISABILITY RETIREMENT BOARD.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 5-169 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2014*):

4 (c) The Governor shall appoint a board of seven physicians, each of
5 whom is a current or retired state employee, one of whom shall be
6 experienced in the respiratory or pulmonary fields and two of whom
7 shall be experienced in psychiatry, to serve at his pleasure as a medical
8 examining board to determine whether each applicant for disability
9 retirement is entitled thereto. Three of such members, one of whom
10 shall be the elected chairman or the elected secretary of the board, shall
11 constitute a quorum for the determination of any applicant's
12 entitlement. The chairman or the secretary shall report the findings of
13 the board to the Retirement Commission from time to time as
14 requested by the commission as to the entitlement of each applicant or

15 the continuance of disability of members so retired. The Comptroller is
16 authorized to pay for stenographic and professional services as
17 requested and approved by the board.

| | | |
|---|------------------------|----------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>October 1, 2014</i> | 5-169(c) |

LAB *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

| Agency Affected | Fund-Effect | FY 15 \$ | FY 16 \$ |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Comptroller | GF - Potential Cost or Savings | See Below | See Below |

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill may result in a cost or savings to the Office of the State Comptroller (OSC) related to having a respiratory/pulmonary specialist as one of seven members of the Medical Examining Board (MEB). The cost or savings to the OSC will depend on the salary of the physician appointed and their position on the board (e.g. Chair, Secretary, or member), relative to what is currently spent on physician services.

The OSC currently has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the University of Connecticut Health Center (UCHC) to utilize their physicians for appointment to the (MEB). Per the FY 14 MOU the OSC reimburses UCHC for a portion of physicians' salaries and fringe benefits not to exceed \$215,815.

The chairman or secretary of the board is required to attend each meeting. Under the current MOU, UCHC assigns 20% of the physicians' salaries and fringe benefit costs for the chairman and secretary of the board and 10% of salary and fringe benefit costs for all other members.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5281*****AN ACT CONCERNING MEMBERS OF THE DISABILITY RETIREMENT BOARD.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires one of the seven members on the Medical Examining Board for Disability Retirement to be experienced in the respiratory or pulmonary fields.

By law, the board determines whether a state employee is eligible for a disability retirement. Its members are appointed by the governor and serve at his pleasure. All seven must be physicians who are current or retired state employees. Two must be experienced in psychiatry.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014

COMMITTEE ACTION

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 12 Nay 0 (03/11/2014)