

**Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System
Legislative Committee Meeting
June 24, 2016**

The Legislative Committee of the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System met on Friday, June 24, 2016, in the fourth floor conference room of the Retirement Systems Building located at 8401 United Plaza Boulevard, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Janice Lansing, Board Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:27 a.m. Roll was called by Abby Partin, recording secretary.

Members Present: Ms. Beverly Hodges, Ms. Janice Lansing, Mr. Rick McGimsey (designee of the Commissioner), Ms. Lori Pierce, Ms. Kathy Singleton, Ms. Shannon Templet, Ms. Lorry Trotter

Members Absent: Mr. Thomas Bickham, Ms. Virginia Burton, Judge William Kleinpeter, Senator Barrow Peacock, Representative Kevin Pearson, Mr. John Kennedy

Staff Present: Ms. Maris LeBlanc, Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer; Mr. Trey Boudreaux, Chief Administrative Officer; Mr. Steve Stark, Deputy General Counsel; Ms. Tricia Gibbons, Retirement Benefits Administrator; Mr. Artie Fillastre, Chief Fiscal Officer; Ms. Tonja Normand; Public Information Director; Mr. Dan Bowden, IT Director; Mr. Ryan Babin, Audit Director; Mr. Trey Roche, Attorney; Ms. Amanda Celestine, Executive Management Officer; Ms. Abby Partin, recording secretary

Also Present: Ms. Shelley Johnson, Foster & Foster, Mr. Charles Hall, Hall Actuarial, Ms. Annie Smith, Committee Attorney, House Retirement Committee.

A quorum was declared present and the meeting opened for business.

Public Comment

Ms. Lansing called for public comment. Ms. LeBlanc introduced and welcomed Ms. Annie Smith, Attorney, House Retirement Committee.

Regular Business

Ms. Lansing called for approval of the minutes of the May 19, 2016, Legislative Committee meeting. **Ms. Templet moved, seconded by Ms. Hodges, to approve the minutes. With no objection or discussion, the motion carried.**

New Business

Ms. LeBlanc gave a status report on the bills of the Regular Session.

HB 32 (Jones); Act 513

As amended, authorizes a COLA of up to 1.5 percent (based on the amount of funds available in the Experience Account) for LASERS retirees and beneficiaries.

SB 2 (Peacock); Act 93

Authorizes a COLA of up to 1.5 percent (based on the amount of funds available in the Experience Account) for LASERS retirees and beneficiaries.

SB 5 (Peacock); Act 94

Includes noninvestment related administrative expenses in calculating the required employer contribution rate.

SB 18 (Peacock); Act 95

As amended: Clarifies provisions created in Act 399 of 2014; reduces the amortization period for actuarial gains and losses from 30 years to 20 years once the system is 70% funded (rather than 85% funded); and provides for the reamortization of schedules of gains and losses for the 2019-2020 fiscal year and every fifth fiscal year thereafter.

HB 603 (Leger); Act 679

(Contingent upon passage of Constitutional Amendment on November 8, 2016)
Establishes the Revenue Stabilization Trust Fund. The Fund may provide additional money for the payment of the UAL.

HB 696 (Leger); Act 639

(Contingent upon passage of Constitutional Amendment on November 8, 2016)
Establishes the Revenue Stabilization Trust Fund, to be funded by certain mineral revenue and certain corporate franchise and income taxes. The Fund may provide additional money for the payment of the UAL.

HB 14 (Pearson); Act 621

As amended, replaces the Chairman of the House Retirement Committee with a member of the House Retirement Committee appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives on each state and statewide retirement board.

HB 78 (Pearson); Act 410

Requires the executive director of each of the state and statewide retirement systems to file annual personal financial disclosure statements.

HB 1093 (Ivey); Act 460

Requires the Legislative Auditor to prepare, at least every five years, comparative summaries of each system's actuarial assumptions and funded ratio and the auditor's finding as to the appropriateness of each system's assumptions.

SB 14 (Morrish); Act 160

Adds employees of the Chenier Plain Coastal Restoration and Protection Authority to LASERS, upon adoption of a resolution by the Authority Board.

SB 15 (Mills); Act 161

Adds employees of the Iberia Parish Levee, Hurricane and Conservation District to LASERS, upon adoption of a resolution by the District Board.

Ms. LeBlanc pointed out that every bill LASERS had opposed failed to pass.

Ms. LeBlanc went over other legislation of interest to LASERS.

HB 81 (Broadwater); Act 654

Public bodies shall make the contact information of the custodian of public records available to the public in a manner that quickly allows a member of the public to determine the appropriate person to whom a public records request should be submitted, including by placing such information on the Internet. (This was already required by HCR 129 of 2013). The Act shall be known as the C.B. Forgotston Act.

HB 141 (Leger); Act 353

Requires that actuarial notes include the estimated fiscal impact on governmental entities, including the effect on federal, state, and local funds.

HB 272 (Smith); Act 87

Amends the Ethics Code to allow public servants to accept complimentary admission to a fundraising event held by or for the benefit of an educational institution or by or for the benefit of a nonprofit organization which conducts educational programs.

HB 909 (Anders); Act 71

Removes the general term limits on an executive branch boards and commissions. The general term limits prohibited persons who served for more than two and a half terms in three consecutive terms, or for a period of 12 consecutive years, from being elected or appointed to a succeeding term. (This Act would not impact the LASERS Board of Trustees since there is a specific term limit statute, R.S. 11:511, which limits trustees to three consecutive four-year terms.)

HCR 12 (Franklin)

Memorializes congress to consider eliminating the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) Social Security benefit reductions.

HCR 25 (Schroder)

Urges and requests each state department to submit to the commissioner of administration, the legislature, and the Task Force on Structural Changes in Budget and Tax Policy, an efficiency report that outlines initiatives they will undertake to ensure more efficient operations in Fiscal Year 2016-2017 and beyond.

HSR 6 (Ivey)

Requests that the House Committee on Retirement study both the current and best practices in retirement system reporting standards and in adoption of actuarial assumptions and methods, to investigate past legislative improvements and the need for further improvement relative to state and statewide systems and to report findings to the House of Representatives prior to the 2017 Regular Session.

SB 49 (Long); Act 517

Prohibits performance adjustments, cost-of-living adjustments, or general salary increases for unclassified employees in the executive branch in the last 90 days of the term of office of the Governor unless approved by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget.

SB 57 (Bishop); Act 588

Prohibits the granting of pay increases for unclassified employees in the executive branch between the gubernatorial election and inauguration day without the approval of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget. The State Civil Service Commission may establish the same or similar provision for classified employees.

SB 372 (Peacock); Act 176

Provides that actuarial notes for any bills prefiled at least 45 days prior to a regular session of the legislature shall be completed and filed at least five days prior to the convening of that session.

SB 277 (Bishop/Thompson); Act 615

Makes state museum law enforcement officers and state park wardens eligible for the LASERS Hazardous Duty Plan.

Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.