House Committee on Retirement

Minutes of Meeting 2022 Regular Session April 7, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Phillip R. DeVillier, chairman of the House Committee on Retirement, called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m. in Room 4, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Phillip R. DeVillier, chairman

Representative Roy Daryl Adams

Representative Tony Bacala

Representative Delisha Boyd

Representative Michael "Gabe" Firment

Representative Aimee Adatto Freeman

Representative Paul Hollis

Representative John R. Illg, Jr., vice chairman

Representative Barry Ivey

Representative Patrick O. Jefferson

Representative Richard James Nelson

Representative Phillip Eric Tarver

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Julie Emerson

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joey David, legislative analyst Jennifer Watson, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Rebecca Marshall, sergeant at arms Kalan Jenkins, clerk

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

House Concurrent Resolution No. 11 by Representative Mike Johnson

Representative Mike Johnson presented House Concurrent Resolution No. 11, which provides relative to the Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision.

Representative Ivey offered a motion to report House Concurrent Resolution No. 11 favorably. Without objection, House Concurrent Resolution No. 11 was reported favorably by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVillier, Adams, Boyd, Firment, Illg, Ivey, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 7 in support, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Vice Chairman Illg in the chair.

House Bill No. 17 by Representative DeVillier

Representative DeVillier presented House Bill No. 17, which provides for a benefit increase for the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System.

Charles Bujol, executive director, Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System, 8660 United Plaza Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-6486, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 17 and provided a handout, Exhibit B, which is included in the committee records.

Gregory Curran, actuary, 10555 North Glenstone Place, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 769-4825, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 17.

Representative Firment offered a motion to report House Bill No. 17 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 17 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVillier, Adams, Boyd, Firment, Illg, Ivey, Jefferson, and Tarver voted yea.

House Bill No. 19 by Representative DeVillier

Representative DeVillier presented House Bill No. 19, which provides relative to membership in the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System's Hazardous Duty Services Plan.

Erin St. Pierre, office of state fire marshal, 8181 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 955-0508, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 19.

Felicia H. Cooper, office of state fire marshal, 8181 Independence Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, (225) 268-4424, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 19.

Cindy Rougeou, executive director, Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System (LASERS), 8401 United Plaza Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 922-0604, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 19.

Representative Tarver offered a motion to report House Bill No. 19 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 19 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVillier, Adams, Boyd, Firment, Illg, Ivey, Jefferson, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Chairman DeVillier in the chair.

House Bill No. 21 by Representative Bacala

On behalf of Representative Bacala, Ben Huxen, Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System, 7722 Office Park Boulevard, Suite 200, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 929-7411, presented House Bill No. 21, which provides for a funding deposit account for Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System and authorizes the board of trustees of the system to modify required employer contributions. He provided a handout, Exhibit C, which is included in committee records.

Representative Ivey offered amendments to repeal conflicting provisions of present law regarding use of investment earnings to pay for cost of living adjustments. Representative Ivey offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVillier, Adams, Boyd, Freeman, Illg, Ivey, and Tarver voted yea.

Gregory Curran, actuary, 10555 North Glenstone Place, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 769-4825, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 21.

Representative Illg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 21 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 21 was reported with amendments by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVillier, Adams, Boyd, Firment, Freeman, Illg, Ivey, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 24 by Representative Illg

Representative Illg presented House Bill No. 24, which provides relative to transfers of service credit and deferred retirement within the District Attorneys' Retirement System.

Kristi Spinosa, director, District Attorneys' Retirement System, 2525 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70808, (225) 267-4824, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 24.

Gregory Curran, actuary, 10555 North Glenstone Place, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 769-4825, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 24.

Representative Adams offered a motion to report House Bill No. 24 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 24 was reported favorably by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVillier, Adams, Boyd, Firment, Illg, Ivey, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 32 by Representative Tarver

Representative Tarver presented House Bill No. 32, which provides relative to the duties of the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee.

Representative DeVillier offered amendments to make technical changes. Representative DeVillier offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVillier, Adams, Boyd, Firment, Illg, Ivey, and Tarver voted yea.

Representative DeVillier offered a motion to report House Bill No. 32 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 32 was reported with amendments by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVillier, Adams, Boyd, Firment, Illg, Ivey, and Tarver voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, and 2 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Adoption of minutes for 2021 Regular Session meetings held on April 29, May 6, and May 13, 2021

The minutes from the 2021 Regular Session dated April 29, May 6, and May 13 were presented to the committee for adoption. Representative Illg offered a motion to adopt the minutes. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVillier, Adams, Bacala, Firment, Illg, Jefferson, Nelson, and Tarver voted yea.

Presentation from Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System, Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System, and Louisiana State Police Retirement System

Katherine Whitney, Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL), 8401 United Plaza Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-6454, spoke for information only and provided a handout entitled "State Retirement Systems of Louisiana", Exhibit A, which is included in the committee records.

Cindy Rougeou, executive director, LASERS, 8401 United Plaza Boulevard, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 922-0604, spoke for information only.

Shelley Johnson, LASERS/TRSL, 13420 Parker Commons Boulevard, Suite 104, Fort Myers, FL 33912, (239) 433-5500, spoke for information only.

Charles Bujol, Louisiana School Employees Retirement System, no witness card provided, spoke for information only.

Kevin Reed, Louisiana State Police Retirement System, 9224 Jefferson Highway, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-8400, spoke for information only.

Margaret Michel, Louisiana State Police Retirement System, 9224 Jefferson Highway, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-8400, spoke for information only.

Kenny Herbold, actuary, Louisiana Legislative Auditor, no witness card provided, spoke for information only.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Tarver offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 7 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVillier, Adams, Boyd, Firment, Illg, Ivey, and Tarver voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Phillip R. DeVillier House Committee on Retirement

Date adopted: