

House Committee on Retirement

Minutes of Meeting
2022 - 2023 Interim
December 15, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Phillip DeVillier, chairman of the House Committee on Retirement called the meeting to order at 11:07 a.m. in Room 4, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Phillip R. DeVillier, chairman
Representative Tony Bacala
Representative Michael "Gabe" Firment
Representative Aimee Adatto Freeman
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 Roy Daryl Adams
Representative Delisha Boyd
Representative Julie Emerson
Representative Paul Hollis

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Joey David, legislative analyst
Jennifer Watson, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms

III. BUSINESS

To review House Resolution No. 136 of the 2022 Regular Session relative to cost-of-living adjustments for Firefighters' Retirement System retirees

Representative Firment explained the Firefighters' Retirement System had not received a cost-of-living adjustment since 2015 although a cost-of-living adjustment could have been funded. He referred to a report, "Louisiana Firefighters' Retirement System HR 136 Committee Report and Recommendations for Cost-of-Living Adjustments for Retired Firefighters and Beneficiaries", labeled Exhibit A and included in the committee records, which studied various forms of cost-of-living benefits and different ways to fund these adjustments creatively. He noted that the authors of Exhibit A wrote on page 6: "The Committee recommends that the Legislature consider adopting a one-time lump sum nonrecurring payment for all normal service and service-connected disability retirees, including survivors, where appropriate, provided the recipient has been in pay status for five full years."

Representative Ivey in the chair.

Greg Curran, actuary for Firefighters' Retirement System, 1055 North Glenstone Place, Baton Rouge, LA 70810, (225) 469-4825, spoke for information only.

Steven Stockstill, Firefighters' Retirement System, 3100 Brentwood Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70809, (225) 925-4060, spoke for information only.

Chairman DeVillier in chair.

David Marcase, Louisiana Municipal Association, 6767 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA, (255) 344-5001, spoke for information only.

To review and discuss House Resolution No. 254 of the 2022 Regular Session regarding review of constitutional provisions within the jurisdiction of the committee

Representative Ivey explained that House Resolution No. 254 asks that the clerk of the House divide the constitution into subject matter components and assign those components to the pertinent subject matter committees.

Steven Procupio, Public Affairs Research Council, 6338 Seven Oaks, Baton Rouge, LA, (225) 924-2426, spoke for information only.

Chairman DeVillier announced that a subcommittee chaired by Representative Illg will meet to review the constitutional provisions of the House Committee on Retirement and create a report to be reviewed by the committee.

Exhibits B and C are copies of the resolutions discussed, and are included in the committee records.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joey David, committee analyst, announced that the Public Retirement Systems Actuarial Committee approved contribution rates for the four state systems and that the pending lawsuit between the Recreation and Parks Commission for the Parish of East Baton Rouge versus East Baton Rouge Sheriff Sid Gautreaux will have a hearing December 16, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. in the 19th Judicial District Court before Judge Ronald Johnson.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Ivey offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 9 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives DeVilier, Bacala, Firment, Freeman, Illg, Ivey, Jefferson, LaFleur, and Nelson voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Phillip DeVillier
House Committee on Retirement

Date adopted:

The committee has acknowledged on _____, that these minutes were prepared in accordance with the rules of the House of Representatives.