

NHRS Bill Brief: 1550-FN (as introduced)

Prepared for the House ED&A Committee

Summary: “AN ACT extending accidental death benefits for group II members of the retirement system suffering from heart attacks.”

Analysis: “This bill extends accidental death benefits for group II members of the retirement system suffering from heart attacks.”

Sponsors: Rep. Abbas, Rock. 8; Rep. Lang, Belk. 4; Rep. Doucette, Rock. 8.

Background

This bill expands the eligibility for accidental (work-related) death benefits for Group II members of the New Hampshire Retirement System by adding a reference to deaths caused by hypertension or heart disease.

NHRS currently relies on the Department of Labor to determine work-relatedness and compensability under the workers' compensation statute (RSA 281-A). To alleviate any risk of inconsistency and conflict with those statutes and presumptions in the disability determination process, the retirement system believes that it is important that the language in RSA 100-A should be consistent with the language found in RSA 281-A. In other words, should the Legislature wish to expand Group II benefits to cover these causes of death, the language being proposed in RSA 100-A should be proposed for RSA 281-A, as well.

Financial Considerations

The financial impact of this legislation is indeterminable. NHRS cannot predict the number of such future deaths and what impact it may have on employer contribution rates.

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Note: The content provided above is for informational purposes; NHRS neither supports nor opposes this legislation.