

Note: These minutes from the May 14, 2019 Legislative Committee meeting were approved and executed at the August 29, 2019 Legislative Committee meeting.

**NHRS Legislative Committee of the Board of Trustees
May 14, 2019**

PUBLIC MINUTES

**New Hampshire Retirement System
54 Regional Drive
Concord, NH**

Committee Members present: Chair Scott Myers, Richard Gustafson, Sue Hannan, Robert Maloney, and Michael Milligan

Staff: Mark Cavanaugh, *Associate Counsel and Compliance Officer*; Tim Crutchfield, *Chief Legal Counsel*; Larry Johansen, *Director of Investments*; Marty Karlon, *Public Information Officer*; George Lagos, *Executive Director*; Nancy Miller, *Director of Member Services*; and Margaret Astles, *Executive Assistant*.

Chair Myers called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Having established a quorum, he called for a motion to accept the April 9, 2019, Legislative Committee meeting minutes.

On a motion by Trustee Maloney, seconded by Trustee Hannan, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes of April 9, 2019, as presented.

Public Information Officer Marty Karlon gave the Committee an update on the 2019 Legislative Tracker as of May 10, 2019. He began with HB 110, which would require that the cost of a statutorily required fiscal analysis of proposed legislation done by the retirement system be reimbursed to NHRS by the State. The Senate ED&A Committee voted to recommend OTP. The bill is on the Senate Calendar for May 15, 2019.

Reporting on HB 116, Mr. Karlon noted that this bill changes the method for determining the proper NHRS membership classification of state correctional staff who meet the statutory definition of “line personnel”. HB 116 was passed by the House and is now with the Senate Finance Committee.

Mr. Karlon reported that HB 418, which would modify the “grandfathering” provision for retirees working part-time for NHRS participating employers on January 1, 2019, was voted inexpedient to legislate (ITL) by the Senate based on a committee recommendation and the bill is dead.

HB 468 would reclassify annual attendance stipends or bonuses as earnable compensation for NHRS. Mr. Karlon noted that it is possible that an amendment to this bill will be introduced on May 15, 2019 that would allow summer adjunct pay for full-time community college faculty to be included as earnable compensation.

Mr. Karlon noted that HB 497 has been retained by the House Finance Committee, and no further action is expected this session. The bill is of interest to participating employers, as it required the state to pay 15 percent of employer contributions for teachers, police officers and firefighters employed by political subdivisions, beginning in the fiscal year 2020. The state had subsidized local employer costs for these member groups for decades before the state contribution was repealed in 2011.

HB 616, grants a 1.5% cost of living adjustment (COLA) on the first \$50,000 of the pension benefit to retirees who retired on or before July 1, 2014, or any beneficiary of such member who is receiving a pension benefit. The COLA would take effect on the retired member's first anniversary date occurring after July 1, 2020. The Senate ED&A Committee held a public hearing on this bill and it will be acted upon May 16, 2019.

Mr. Karlon reported on HB 629, noting that it establishes a defined contribution state retirement plan for new members of NHRS, who begin service on or after July 1, 2019. The House, on a voice vote, accepted the House ED&A Committee's recommendation of inexpedient to legislate (ITL), and the bill is dead.

Reporting on HB 675, Mr. Karlon noted that the Senate passed this bill. As requested by NHRS, HB 675 modifies the cost calculation methodologies for the purchase of service credit in the retirement system for active service in the armed forces prior to NHRS membership and in cases of employer enrollment oversight. This bill has been enrolled and is waiting for action by the Governor.

Mr. Karlon reported that HB 720, which would have allowed a retired faculty member of the community college system to begin part-time employment prior to 28 days after retirement, upon committee recommendation was voted inexpedient to legislate (ITL) by the House and the bill is dead.

Mr. Karlon reported that SB 28, as passed by both legislative chambers, would add an active NHRS member to the NHRS Independent Investment Committee member as a sixth, non-voting member. The active member would be appointed by the Governor from a list of nominations provided by public employee labor organizations. This Senate bill was passed by the Senate, and is awaiting the Governor's action.

Lastly, Mr. Karlon reviewed other bills that NHRS is monitoring. These include HB 150, HB 224, HB 379, SB 59 and SB 316, and although these bills do not pertain to RSA 100-A, there may be an overlap in some cases.

With no further business to discuss, Chair Myers called for a motion to adjourn. On a motion by Trustee Hannan, seconded by Trustee Milligan, the Legislative Committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret M. Astles
Executive Assistant