

COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

PENSION IMPACT NOTE

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BILL NO: **HB 4939**

February 15, 2018

SPONSOR (S): Bennett

SYSTEM(S): Downstate Fire (Article 4)

FISCAL IMPACT: The fiscal impact of HB 4939 cannot be determined as the Department of Insurance does not track the number of Article 4 (Downstate Fire) disability annuitants who are deemed to suffer from PTSD.

SUBJECT MATTER: HB 4939 amends the Downstate Fire article of the Pension Code to stipulate that disabled firefighters who suffer from PTSD need not undergo an annual physical after age 45 (currently, age 50) to verify continuance of the disability.

COMMENT: Currently, a disability pension is not payable under the Downstate Fire article of the Pension Code until the member has been examined by 3 physicians selected by the pension board. This examination procedure must continue annually prior to the attainment of age 50 in order to verify continuance of disability. HB 4939 creates an exception to the foregoing examination requirement. Under the bill, a medical examination for a firefighter receiving a disability pension for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) shall not be made after the attainment of 45.

DH :bj

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