

COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

PENSION IMPACT NOTE

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BILL NO: **HB 1099, as amended by House Amendment #001** February 25, 2009

SPONSOR (S): McCarthy

SYSTEM(S): Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Retirement Fund

FISCAL IMPACT: The fiscal impact of HB 1099, as amended by House Amendment #001, cannot be determined because the number of people affected by each of the various changes cannot be determined. The system's actuary estimates the change in child payments will increase the system's annual payout by \$20,000 annually.

SUBJECT MATTER: HB 1099, as amended by House Amendment #001, amends the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Article of the Illinois Pension Code to alter provisions concerning reversionary annuities, child annuities, duty disability benefits and refunds.

FISCAL IMPACT: The fiscal impact of HB 1099, as amended by House Amendment #001, cannot be determined because the number of people affected by each of the various changes cannot be determined. The system's actuary estimates the change in child payments will increase the system's annual payout by \$20,000 annually.

COMMENTS: HB 1099, as amended by House Amendment #001, provides for a change in the effective date on reversionary annuities, i.e., election of a lower retirement annuity for the employee in order to provide an increased survivor annuity for selected dependants. Currently, these annuities begin the day following the employee's death with payments beginning one month thereafter. HB 1099 changes the beginning date to the first day of the following calendar month with a corresponding change in commencement of payments.

In addition, HB 1099, as amended by House Amendment #001, increases the amount of any child annuities. Currently, if either parent is alive, the first child receives \$500 monthly with each additional child receiving \$350, up to a maximum total paid to all children equaling \$2,500 monthly. If both parents are deceased, the first child receives \$1,000 monthly with each additional child receiving \$500, up to a maximum paid to all children equaling \$2,500 monthly. HB 1099, as amended by House Amendment #001, provides that, if either parent is alive, every child will receive \$500 monthly, with the total for all children not to exceed \$5,000 monthly. Further, if both parents are deceased, every child will receive \$1,000 monthly, with the total for all children not to exceed \$5,000 monthly.

Finally, HB 1099, as amended by House Amendment #001, will provide for a number of minor technical changes in duty disability rules and refund policy. These changes will result in no significant fiscal effects on the retirement fund.

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