COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

PENSION IMPACT NOTE

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BILL NO: **SB 1416**

February 18, 2009

SPONSOR (S): Hultgren

SYSTEM(S): Downstate Police and Downstate Firefighters Pension Funds

FISCAL IMPACT: The Commission's actuary reports that due to a lack of information regarding the members of Downstate police and fire pension funds who are receiving Workers' Compensation disability benefits, it is not possible to determine the fiscal impact of this bill.

<u>SUBJECT MATTER</u>: SB 1416 amends the Downstate Police and Downstate Firefighters Articles of the Illinois Pension Code and the Worker's Compensation Act to eliminate the current reduction in disability and survivor's benefits whenever workers compensation benefits are received for the same injury or disease.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT</u>: The Commission's actuary reports that due to a lack of information regarding the members of Downstate police and fire pension funds who are receiving Workers' Compensation disability benefits, it is not possible to determine the fiscal impact of this bill.

<u>COMMENTS</u>: Currently, payments of disability and survivor's benefits from the various Downstate Police and Downstate Firefighter Pension Funds are reduced if a beneficiary receives payments under the Worker's Compensation or Worker's Occupational Disease Acts for the same injury or disease. SB 1416 deletes this reduction and replaces it with the waiver of all total temporary disability benefits for worker's compensation whenever a beneficiary receives corresponding disability and survivor's benefits from a Downstate Police or Downstate Firefighters Pension Fund. Therefore, total payments for worker's compensation will be reduced due to the new waiver of benefits, while total disability and survivor's benefit payments from the Downstate Police and Downstate Firefighters Pension Funds will be increased due to the elimination of the pension reduction provision.

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