

COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

PENSION IMPACT NOTE

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

REVISED

BILL NO: SB 1861

March 6, 2009

SPONSOR (S): Bond - Martinez

SYSTEM(S): Downstate Firefighters' Pension Funds

FISCAL IMPACT: The fiscal impact of SB 1861 cannot be determined as the number of paramedics and EMTs joining the Downstate Firefighters' Pension Funds are unknown. The employer's contribution for these new members will equal the employer's normal cost, or 17.5% of salaries, whichever is greater. (The Commission's actuary reports that the statewide average employer's normal cost for Downstate Fire pension funds is 20.23% of payroll). Downstate firefighters contribute 9.455% of salary towards their pensions. Ultimately, the fiscal effects upon the pension funds will depend on the number of members joining the pension funds.

SUBJECT MATTER: SB 1861 amends the Downstate Firefighters' Article of the Illinois Pension Code to add paramedics and EMTs to the list of job titles eligible to participate in these pension funds.

FISCAL IMPACT: The fiscal impact of SB 1861 cannot be determined as the number of paramedics and EMTs joining the Downstate Firefighters' Pension Funds are unknown. The employer's contribution for these new members will equal the employer's normal cost, or 17.5% of salaries, whichever is greater. (The Commission's actuary reports that the statewide average employer's normal cost for Downstate Fire pension funds is 20.23% of payroll). Downstate firefighters contribute 9.455% of salary towards their pensions. Ultimately, the fiscal effects upon the pension funds will depend on the number of members joining the pension funds.

COMMENTS: Currently, the Illinois Pension Code contains a list of job titles eligible to participate in the Downstate Firefighters' Pension Funds. SB 1861 adds paramedics and EMTs to this list of qualified positions. All required employee and employer contributions will be paid into the pension funds by the appropriate outside parties.

GS:dkb

LRB096 03386 AMC 13409 b

3/11/2009 10:43 AM