

COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

PENSION IMPACT NOTE

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BILL NO: **HB 1929**

October 11, 2007

SPONSOR (S): Hoffman

SYSTEM(S): Downstate Police Article

FISCAL IMPACT: The fiscal impact of HB 1929 cannot be determined as is it unknown how many participants will be eligible to receive benefits.

SUBJECT MATTER: HB 1929 amends Downstate Police Article of the Illinois Pension Code. This bill allows payment of a survivor's pension to the surviving spouse and children of a marriage occurring after retirement, if the surviving spouse and the deceased police officer were married for at least one year immediately preceding the date of death.

FISCAL IMPACT: The fiscal impact of HB 1929 cannot be determined as it is unknown how many participants will be eligible to receive benefits.

COMMENT: Currently, if a police officer marries following retirement on any pension under the Downstate Police article other than a pension established under the self-managed plan (Section 3-109.3), the surviving spouse and children shall receive no pension. HB 1929 states that beginning in January 1, 2008, the surviving spouse and children of a police officer are not disqualified from receiving a survivor's pension if the surviving spouse was married to the police officer for at least one year immediately preceding the officer's death. If a spouse becomes eligible for a survivor's pension because of the death of the police officer who died before the effective date of this amendatory Act, the pension shall begin to accrue on the first day of the month following the month in which an application is received by the Retirement Board. However, the pension shall accrue no sooner than January 1, 2008 and in no event before the repayment with interest, of any refund of contributions previously received from the fund.

HB 1929 amends the State Mandates Act to require implementation without reimbursement.

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