COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

PENSION IMPACT NOTE

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BILL NO: **HB 0299** January 12, 2017

SPONSOR (S): Ammons

SYSTEM(S): SURS

FISCAL IMPACT: According to SURS, a review of this legislation is underway, and a cost estimate has not yet been provided to COGFA. An updated impact note will be published when more comprehensive information becomes available.

<u>SUBJECT MATTER</u>: HB 0299 amends the SURS article of the Pension Code to add an additional condition to the definition of "affected annuitant" as that term was defined by P.A. 97-0968. The general subject matter of this bill deals with annuitants who return to work and the reimbursement amounts required of the employing university.

<u>COMMENT:</u> P.A. 97-0968 (SB 4996), which became effective on July 1, 2012, made a number of changes to the SURS article of the Pension Code regarding annuitants who return to service after August of 2013. Specifically, the act defined an "affected annuitant" as anyone receiving a retirement annuity from SURS while being employed by an employer also under SURS in the previous academic year for a total of 18 or more paid weeks (which need not have been all with the same employer or in the same academic year) but not full-time, and receiving, or becoming entitled to receive, compensation in excess of 40% of his or her highest annual earnings prior to retirement, less any compensation provided by federal, corporate, foundation, or trust funds or grants of State funds that identify the principal investigator by name. Several other provisions were added by P.A. 97-09680

HB 0299 adds an additional definition to "affected annuitant" such that a person loses "affected annuitant" status if at any period on or after the effective date of this Act the annuitant received an annualized retirement annuity under SURS that is less than \$10,000.

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