COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

PENSION IMPACT NOTE

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BILL NO: **HB 5892** October 31, 2018

SPONSOR (S): Ives

SYSTEM(S): Downstate Police and Firefighters

FISCAL IMPACT: The fiscal impact of HB 5892 is indeterminable as it amends an administrative process that affects disability pensions; however, the impact is expected to be minimal.

SUBJECT MATTER: HB 5892 amends the Downstate Police and Downstate Firefighters articles of the Pension Code to require a vote of at least four members of the local Board for a Downstate Police or Downstate Firefighter pension fund to award a disability pension.

COMMENT: Currently, eligibility for disability benefits under Articles 3 and 4 (Downstate police and fire) pension funds are determined by simple majority votes of the five member pension boards, in addition to other requirements such as examination by 3 practicing physicians. The 5-member composition for Downstate police and fire pension fund boards are as follows: 2 active employees, 1 retiree, and 2 mayoral appointees. HB 5892 would change the simply majority standard to a vote of at least four of the five members on a local Board for Downstate Firefighter or Downstate Police pension fund to award disability pensions.

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