

COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

PENSION IMPACT NOTE

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BILL NO: **HB 2911**

March 5, 2019

SPONSOR (S): Martwick

SYSTEM(S): Chicago Firefighters

FISCAL IMPACT: The number of firefighters this may affect and the likelihood of contracting a disease 5 years after retirement is currently unknown. Therefore, the fiscal impact is undetermined until more information is provided.

SUBJECT MATTER: HB 2911 allows firefighters to receive an occupational disease disability instead of their retirement annuity if they're not at the age of compulsory retirement (age 63), have not received a retirement annuity for more than five years, and have a condition that would qualify them for an occupational disease disability benefit if they served as an active firefighter.

COMMENT: Current statute allows firefighters to receive occupational disease disability benefits up until the compulsory age of retirement. Such benefits amount to 65% of the firefighter's salary at the time of removal, or at least 50% of the current salary attached to the firefighter's previous rank after at least 10 years of benefit payments. This bill would allow recently retired firefighters to receive occupational disease disability if a condition is diagnosed within five years of retiring.

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