COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

PENSION IMPACT NOTE

102nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BILL NO: **HB 4435** January 25, 2022

SPONSOR (S): Evans

SYSTEM(S): Chicago Firefighter Article

FISCAL IMPACT: HB 4435 amends the Chicago Firefighter Article of the Pension Code to include a contagious staph infection, including methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), among the conditions eligible for occupational disease disability benefits. The fiscal impact is unknown as the number of firefighters who would apply for an occupational disease disability benefit due to MRSA is unknown.

SUBJECT MATTER: HB 4435 amends the Chicago Firefighter Article of the Pension Code to entitle firefighters that are unable to perform their duties due to a contagious staph infection, including methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), resulting from their service as a fireman, to an occupational disability benefit.

COMMENT: Under current law, firefighters who complete seven or more years of service and are unable to continue in active duty due to a work related injury or specific illnesses as enumerated in the Chicago Fire article of the Pension Code are entitled to receive an occupational disease disability benefit during the time they are unable to continue in active duty. Under the Chicago Fire article of the Pension Code, an occupational disease disability benefit is equal to 65% of the participant's salary on the date of removal from payroll. The total amount of the benefit shall not exceed 75% of salary at the time the benefit is granted, and is payable until the earlier of death, retirement, or a return to active duty.

HB 4435 would add methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) as a qualifying condition for an occupational disease disability benefit.

JK:bs
LRB102 23493 RPS 32671 b