COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

PENSION IMPACT NOTE

102nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BILL NO: **HB 4579** January 19, 2022

SPONSOR (S): Zalewski

SYSTEM Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Fund

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no discernable fiscal impact associated with HB 4579.

SUBJECT MATTER: HB 4579 amends the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Article of the Illinois Pension Code. The bill expands the classification of medical professionals who can file the medical reports for employees requesting disability payments from licensed and practicing physicians (current law) to any fully licensed health care professional.

COMMENT: HB 4579 would allow the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Retirement Fund (MWRD) to receive medical reports supporting applications for disability benefits or the extension of disability benefits from "licensed health care professionals" rather than from licensed physicians, as is currently the law. The pension fund says that this change will expand the medical personnel providing medical reports to include professionals such as psychologists and nurse practitioners. This initiative mirrors a similar bill that was passed in 2019 for the State Employees Retirement System (P.A. 101-0054). HB 4579 is an administrative measure and will have no fiscal impact upon the pension fund.

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