COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

PENSION IMPACT NOTE

102nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BILL NO: **SB 2488** March 4, 2021

SPONSOR (S): Villivalam

SYSTEM(S): Chicago Municipal

FISCAL IMPACT: The Chicago Municipal Pension Fund reports that there have been 5 COVID-related deaths since March 9th, 2020, the date upon which this bill specifies that any COVID-related death shall be presumed to have been contracted in the performance of an act of duty.

SUBJECT MATTER: SB 2488 amends the Chicago Municipal Article of the Pension Code. The bill stipulates that the death of any employee as a result of the exposure to and contraction of COVID-19 shall be rebuttably presumed to have been contracted while in the performance of an act of duty.

COMMENT: SB 2488 amends the Chicago Municipal Article of the Pension Code. The bill provides that the death of any employee as a result of the exposure to and contraction of COVID-19 shall be rebuttably presumed to have been contracted while in the performance of an act of duty, and the employee shall be rebuttably presumed to have been fatally injured while in active service. This presumption shall apply to any employee who was exposed to and contracted COVID-19 on or after March 9, 2020, and on or before June 30, 2021. The presumption shall not apply if the employee was on a leave of absence or was otherwise not required to report for duty at the physical work space assigned to the employee.

Under the Chicago Municipal Article of the Pension Code, a duty-related surviving spouse annuity is payable to the widow of the member in the amount of 60% of the member's highest salary. This amount is payable until the date upon which the member would have attained the age of 65, after which the annuity is equal to that which would have been provided for the surviving spouse had the member lived until the attainment of age 65. Under current law, the maximum survivor's annuity payable in the case of a non-duty related death in service is 50% of the highest salary received by the member.

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