



Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability

PENSION IMPACT NOTE *103RD General Assembly*

BILL NO: **HB 4139**

January 9, 2024

SPONSOR (S): Fritts

SYSTEM: Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund

FISCAL IMPACT

From 2018 to 2022, IMRF says that it has paid out \$30,486,460 in temporary disability benefits and \$13,641,378 in permanent disability benefits. Under P.A. 101-0054, enacted on July 12, 2019, a similar change was made to SERS. SERS reports that the change has had an unmeasurably positive impact on the system by reducing administrative burdens.

SUBJECT MATTER: HB 4139 amends the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund Article of the Pension Code to allow participating employees and annuitants to seek medical examinations for both temporary and permanent disability claims from Physicians, Physician Assistants, Clinical Psychologists, and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, rather than solely from licensed physicians.

COMMENT: Under current law, the IMRF article of the Pension Code stipulates that both permanent and temporary disability benefits shall not be awarded without the opinion of at least one licensed and practicing physician. In the case of temporary disability benefits, annuitants shall be subject to periodic checks by licensed and practicing physicians to determine if the medical condition warrants continued disability or if the member is fit to return to service.

HB 4139 amends the IMRF article such that all disability determinations currently rendered by licensed physicians may also be performed by physician assistants, clinical psychologists, or advanced practice nurses, as the Board of Trustees of IMRF deems necessary.

MH:bs

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