



Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability

PENSION IMPACT NOTE *104th General Assembly*

BILL NO: HB 2721, as amended by HA 1

March 18, 2025

SPONSOR (S): Tarver

SYSTEM: TRS and CTPF

FISCAL IMPACT

According to TRS, there have been 255 felony forfeiture cases in which TRS members lost their pensions since 1985, the earliest year for which TRS data is available. These forfeitures may involve various causes as TRS does not track the nature of these forfeiture cases. The fiscal impact of HB 2721, as amended by HA 1, is not known as the number of CTPF or TRS members who might become convicted of a sexual crime, whether related to their teaching service or not, is not known.

IMPACT OF HA 1: HA 1 differs from the underlying bill by removing pension forfeiture provisions for members under criminal investigation or in a criminal proceeding for sexual crimes.

SUBJECT MATTER: HB 2721, as amended by HA 1, amends the Downstate Teacher (TRS) and Chicago Teacher (CTPF) Articles of the Pension Code. This legislation mandates a TRS or CTPF member to forfeit all pension benefits if convicted of a sexual crime, as specified in the Comment section below.

COMMENT: Currently, TRS and CTPF have felony conviction forfeiture provisions in their respective articles. Under these provisions, a member convicted of any felony related to service as a member in the pertinent system loses all pension benefits, including survivor benefits.

HB 2721, as amended by HA 1, would introduce new pension forfeiture provisions, under which a member of TRS or CTPF would forfeit all pension benefits, if convicted of crimes under the Sex Offenses Article of the Criminal Code of 2012 or crimes requiring registration under the Sex Offender Registration Act.

These new pension forfeiture provisions would apply only to members who begin service as teachers on or after the bill's effective date. All teachers who enter service after this date shall be deemed to have consented to the provisions outlined in this legislation.

HA 1 differs from the underlying bill by removing pension forfeiture provisions for members under criminal investigation or in a criminal proceeding for sexual crimes, or under investigation or substantiated by the inspector general for sexual misconduct allegations involving a student.

JB:bs

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