



Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability

PENSION IMPACT NOTE *104TH General Assembly*

BILL NO: SB 1186

January 29, 2025

SPONSOR (S): Martwick

SYSTEM: Chicago Police

FISCAL IMPACT

SB 1186 is expected to have a minor impact upon the Chicago Police Pension Fund, to the extent that the fund would be required to pay court costs and attorney's fees following a police officer's successful action of administrative review regarding a denied application for ordinary disability benefits or a termination of disability benefits as outlined in the bill.

The Chicago Police Fund has not yet responded to requests for information regarding the number of cases pertaining to the circumstances outlined in the bill that have occurred over the last five fiscal years. An updated note will be issued upon receipt of that information.

SUBJECT MATTER: SB 1186 amends the Chicago Police Article of the Illinois Pension Code to entitle a Chicago police officer to recover court costs and litigation expenses from the fund if the officer prevails in an action for administrative review regarding the fund's denial or termination of the officer's disability benefit, regardless of the disability benefit in question. These changes are further detailed in the Comment section below. *Please note – SB 1186 is identical to SB 1191.*

COMMENT: Under current law, a Chicago police officer who prevails in an administrative review proceeding stemming from a denial of disability benefits is entitled to collect court costs, litigation expenses, and reasonable attorney's fees connected to such litigation, but only in cases of duty disability or occupational disease disability benefits.

SB 1186 adds ordinary disability benefits to the provision described above. This would mean that a Chicago police officer who brings an action for administrative review regarding his or her denied application for (or termination of) any disability benefit and prevails in that action is also entitled to recover court costs and litigation expenses, including attorney's fees, from the pension fund.

Please note – SB 1186 is identical to SB 1191 from the 104th GA.

DH:bs

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