

COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT FORECASTING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

PENSION IMPACT NOTE

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

BILL NO: **HB 0307**

February 2, 2007

SPONSOR (S): Mitchell, Bill

SYSTEM(S): None

FISCAL IMPACT: HB 0307 would not have any fiscal impact on any pension fund or retirement system in the State of Illinois.

SUBJECT MATTER: HB 0307 creates the Illinois Conservation Corps Act to provide year-round conservation employment within the Department of Natural Resources for young adults in Illinois. The positions created will have no retirement benefits.

FISCAL IMPACT: HB 0307 would not have any fiscal impact on any pension fund or retirement system in the State of Illinois.

COMMENT/DISCUSSION: HB 0307 creates the Illinois Conservation Act. The Act provides for year-round conservation employment within the Department of Natural Resources for young adults in Illinois. Enrollees in the Corps are entitled to a salary of \$500 per month and a maximum of \$5,000 per year in educational awards. HB 0307 also establishes the Illinois Conservation Corps Fund, a special fund in the State treasury. This Fund is authorized to accept State and federal appropriations, gifts, grants, and private donations. The Department is authorized to use the monies in the Fund only for the purposes of the Corps and is limited to spending no more than 5% of these monies for administrative costs. The State Finance Act is amended to establish the Fund and prohibit the Governor from making any transfers from the Fund. None of the positions created by HB 0307 qualify for participation in any Illinois pension fund or retirement system.

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