

2015 Legislative Session

June 2015 Final Report

Listed below is the final status of the BDR's and Bills that the Retirement Board was tracking and/or took a position on during the 2015 Legislative Session. The status of the bill at the end of the session is in **red ink**. The Retirement Board's position on the bill appears in **blue ink**. All bills can be viewed on the legislature's website (www.leg.state.nv.us).

BDRs

BDR #1230 – Department of Administration – Makes a supplemental appropriation from the State General Fund to the Department of Administration for the state's share of the cost of a PERS audit required by GASB 68. **Status: This BDR was never introduced.**

Assembly Bills

Assembly Bill 3 - BDR #185 – Assemblyman Kirner – Revises provisions governing the Public Employees' Retirement Board. This bill changes the composition of the Retirement Board and increases the number of board members to nine. The board took a position in opposition to this bill at their January 21, 2015 meeting. This bill has been scheduled for hearing on Monday, February 16, 2015, at 9:00 am in front of the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. No action was taken on the bill at the hearing. The bill was scheduled for Work Session on Wednesday, February 25th in Assembly Government Affairs at 8:30 a.m. The bill sponsor offered an amendment to the bill. The bill failed on a 2-yeas and 12-nos vote. **Status: Failed - Pursuant to Joint Standing Rule 14.3.1 no further action is allowed on this bill. Board Position: Opposed**

Assembly Bill 105 – (BDR #682) – Assembly Committee on Government Affairs – Revises provisions governing the membership of the Public Employees' Retirement Board. This bill adds the State Treasurer to the Retirement Board as an ex officio member which increases the number of board members to eight. The Retirement Board adopted a position in opposition to this bill at their February 18th meeting. The bill has been referred to the Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor. **Status: Failed - This bill was never heard in Committee. Pursuant to Joint Standing Rule 14.3.1 no further action is allowed on this bill. Board Position: Opposed**

Assembly Bill 180 – BDR #569 – Assemblyman Armstrong – Revises provisions governing biennial audit requirements for the Public Employees’ Retirement System. Assembly Bill 180 was introduced on February 20th and referred to the Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor. The Retirement Board has not had a chance to review the bill and take a position on it. The bill was scheduled for hearing on March 4th but was not heard. The bill was rescheduled for hearing on March 6th and no action was taken. PERS testified they would recommend support of Assembly Bill 180 as the Retirement Board has a policy in place already to request proposals for annual audits once every 5 years. The Retirement Board reviewed the bill at their March 18th meeting and adopted a position in support of AB 180. On March 23rd the bill was scheduled for work session and do passed by the Committee on Commerce and Labor. The bill was read a second time on March 26th and read a third on March 30th where it passed with 42-yeyes and no nays. The bill has been transmitted to the Senate. The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Government Affairs and heard on April 22, 2015. No action was taken on the bill. On May 1, 2015, the bill was discussed in Work Session and voted do pass. On May 6, 2015, the Senate voted 20-yeyes and 1-excused, the bill passed. The bill was transmitted to the Senate and enrolled. The bill was transmitted to the Governor and signed into law on May 13, 2015. **Status: Approved. Board Position: Support.**

Assembly Bill 190 - BDR #184 – Assemblyman Kirner –Revises provisions governing public employees’ retirement. This bill creates a hybrid retirement plan that contains a defined benefit portion and a defined contribution portion for members on or after July 1, 2016. This bill was introduced on February 23rd and referred to the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. The bill has been scheduled for a hearing on Tuesday, March 3rd at 8:00 a.m. The Retirement Board has not had an opportunity to review the bill and take a position yet. Staff will be recommending the Retirement Board oppose this bill. PERS testified in opposition to Assembly Bill 190 on March 3rd and no action was taken on the bill. On March 11th the bill was scheduled for work session and was re-referred to the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means without recommendation. The bill was declared exempt on March 11th. The Retirement Board reviewed the bill at their March 18th meeting and adopted a position in opposition to Assembly Bill 190. The bill was heard in the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means on April 15, 2015. There was no action taken on the bill. **Status: Failed – Died in committee. Board Position: Opposed.**

Assembly Bill 312 - BDR #975 – Assemblyman Trowbridge – Revises provisions governing the Public Employees’ Retirement System. This bill changes the retirement age to retire with an unreduced benefit to the full Social Security Age for regular members and 10-years less full Social

Security Age for police and fire members. The bill also increases the average highest compensation to 60 consecutive months instead of 36 consecutive months of highest compensation for all members. The Retirement Board has not had a chance to review the bill and take a position on it. Assembly Bill 312 was introduced on March 16th and referred to the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. The bill was heard on March 30th and no action was taken. PERS' testified on the bill as neutral since the Board has not been able to take a position on the bill. The Board held a special board meeting on April 8, 2015 and took a neutral position on the bill. During Work Session on April 10, 2015, the bill was amended and do passed. On April 21, 2015, the Assembly voted 25-yays and 17-nays and was transmitted to the Senate. On April 23, the bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Government Affairs. The bill was heard on May 4, 2015 and no action was taken on the bill. On May 11, 2015, the bill was voted amend and do pass as amended. On May 18, 2015, the bill was read a second time and amended. The bill was then taken from General File and placed on the Secretary's desk. The bill died there. ***Status: Failed - Pursuant to Joint Standing Rule 14.3.4 no further action was allowed on the bill. Board Position: Neutral***

Assembly Bill 363 - BDR #1056 – Assemblywoman Diaz – Provides an optional benefit to the surviving spouse of a deceased police officer or firefighter. This bill was introduced on March 17th and referred to the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. The Retirement Board has not had a chance to review the bill and take a position on it. Assembly Bill 363 was scheduled for hearing March 31st and no action was taken. PERS' testified on the bill as neutral since the Board has not been able to take a position on the bill. The Board held a special board meeting on April 8, 2015 and took a neutral position on the bill. During a Work Session on April 7, 2015, the bill was voted on in Work Session as amend and do pass as amended. On April 17, the bill was read a second time and amended. The Assembly voted 42-yays and no-nays to pass the bill as amended. The bill was transmitted to the Senate and referred to the Senate Committee on Government Affairs. The bill was heard on May 4, and no action was taken on the bill. On May 13, 2015, during a Work Session the bill was voted amend and do pass as amended. On May 16, 2015 the bill was read a second time and amended. On May 17, the bill was taken from General File and placed on the Secretary's desk where it died. Status: Failed - Pursuant to Joint Standing Rule 14.3.4, no further action was allowed on the bill. Board Position: Neutral

Assembly Bill 378 – BDR #807 – Assemblywomen Dooling and Shelton – Makes various changes relating to education. This bill provides a “stipend” to a teacher who participates in the Master Teachers program and Section 14 of the bill creates a subsection at NRS 286.025 to include the stipend as part of PERS definition of compensation. This bill was

introduced on March 17th and referred to the Assembly Committee on Education. The Retirement Board has not had a chance to review the bill and take a position on it. Assembly Bill 378 has been scheduled for hearing on April 8th. The Retirement Board held a special meeting on April 8th and adopted a position in opposition to Section 14 of the bill. At the hearing the sponsor of the bill stated that they would remove Section 14 from the bill. The bill was heard on April 8th and no action was taken on the bill. On April 10th in Work Session the bill was voted amend and do pass as amended. On April 20th the bill was read a second time and amended. On April 21st the bill was taken from General File and rereferred to the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means. The bill never received a hearing and died in Committee. **Status: Failed. Board Position: Opposed to Section 14 of the bill.**

Assembly Bill 387 - BDR #1061 – Assemblywoman Kirkpatrick – Revises provisions relating to the calculation of the years of service of certain members of the Public Employees’ Retirement System, the Judicial Retirement Plan, and the Legislators’ Retirement System. Assembly Bill 387 was introduced on March 17th and referred to the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. The Retirement Board has not had a chance to review the bill and take a position on it. Assembly Bill 387 was scheduled for hearing on March 30th and no action was taken. PERS’ testified on the bill as neutral since the Board has not been able to take a position on the bill. The Board held a special board meeting on April 8th and adopted a neutral position on the bill. No further action was taken on the bill and it died in Committee. **Status: Failed - Pursuant to Joint Standing Rule 14.3.1 no further action was allowed on the bill. Board Position: Neutral**

Senate Bills

Senate Bill 12 - BDR #385 – Public Employees’ Retirement System – Revises provisions governing personnel of the Public Employees’ Retirement System. This bill changes PERS’ Assistant Investment Officer title to Chief Financial Officer. The Board took a position in support of this bill at their January 21, 2015 meeting. This bill was heard in Senate Government Affairs on February 6th at 1:30 p.m. No action was taken on the bill. The bill was scheduled for Work Session on February 13th. The Committee passed the bill. The bill was read a second time on February 17th and read for the third time on February 18th. The Senate voted 20 years and 1 excused which passed the bill to the Assembly. On February 19th the Assembly read the bill for the first time and referred the bill to the Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor. The bill was heard on May 13, 2015 and no action was taken. On May 15, 2015, during Work

Session the bill was voted do pass. On May 20th the bill was read a second time and on May 21, 2015 the Assembly voted 41-yeas and 1-excused so the bill passed. On May 26th the bill was enrolled and delivered to the Governor. The Governor signed the bill into law on May 27th. **Status: *Passed and signed by the Governor, effective July 1, 2015. Board Position: Support***

Senate Bill 69 - BDR #496 – Nevada Supreme Court – Revises provisions relating to the Judicial Retirement System. This bill was read for the first time on February 2nd and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance. On February 9th this bill was given a notice of exemption by the fiscal analysis division. The bill was declared exempt on February 9th. The Retirement Board reviewed Senate Bill 69 at their March 18th meeting and adopted a position in opposition to SB 69 as it is written because it provides a benefit enhancement to members of the Judicial Retirement System. The Board cited their policy that no benefit enhancements would be provided until the fund is at least 85% funded. The bill was scheduled for hearing on March 31st. An amendment was provided at the hearing to remove the benefit enhancement from the bill. There was no action taken on the bill. During Work Session on May 13th the bill was voted amend and do pass as amended. On May 25th the bill was read a second time and amended. On May 26th the Senate voted 19-yeas and 2-excused and transmitted the bill to the Assembly. On May 27th the bill was referred to the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means. The bill was heard on May 28th and voted do pass. On May 29th the bill was read a second time and on May 30th the bill was passed with 41-yeas and 1-excused. The bill was ordered to enrollment and delivered to the Governor. **Status: *Passed and delivered to the Governor. Board Position: Opposed to the original bill.***

Senate Bill 356 - BDR #1092 – Senator Smith – Revises provisions governing the Public Employees’ Retirement System. Senate Bill 356 deems individual members, retired employee or beneficiary information contained in PERS’ files, records are all confidential. The Retirement Board has not had a chance to review the bill and take a position on it. The Board held a special Board meeting on April 8th and adopted a position in support of Senate Bill 356. The bill never received a hearing so it died in Committee. **Status: *Failed – Pursuant to Joint Standing Rule 14.3.1 no further action was allowed on the bill. Board Position: Support.***

Senate Bill 406 – BDR #1049 – Senator Roberson – Revises provisions relating to public retirement systems. This bill makes various changes to the System which includes: a forfeiture clause if you are convicted of a felony; amends post-retirement increases; provides an additional optional benefit for a spouse of a police officer or firefighter killed in the line of

duty; increases the retirement age for eligibility for an unreduced benefit; purchase of service time cannot be considered when determining years of service of a member; cap on compensation used to determine retirement benefits; reduction of the regular member multiplier to 2.25%; adds language regarding domestic partners; various changes to the JRS; and various changes to the LRS. Senate Bill 406 was introduced on March 17th and referred to the Senate Committee on Government Affairs. The Retirement Board has not had a chance to review the bill and take a position on it. The bill has been scheduled for hearing on April 1st. The bill was heard and no action was taken. During Work Session on April 10th the bill was voted to amend and do pass as amended. On April 17th the bill was read a second time and amended. On April 20th the bill was voted 19-yeas and 2-excused and ordered transmitted to the Assembly. On April 21st the bill was referred to the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. On May 11th the bill was heard in the Committee and no action was taken. On May 15th the Committee voted to amend and do pass as amended. On May 21st the bill was read a second time and amended. On May 22nd the bill was voted 41-yeas and 1-nay and ordered to the Senate. On May 28th the Senate concurred in the Assembly amendment and ordered the bill to enrollment. On May 30th the bill was enrolled and delivered to the Governor. The Governor signed the bill on June 10th. **Status: Passed - Approved and signed by the Governor.**
Board Position: Neutral.

Senate Bill 420 - BDR #1176 – Department of Administration – Revises provisions governing the executive staff of the Public Employees’ Retirement System. This bill was requested by the Retirement Board through the budget process. Senate Bill 420 was introduced on March 19th and referred to the Senate Committee on Government Affairs. The bill was scheduled for hearing on March 27th and no action was taken. PERS testified in support of the bill as it was requested by the Retirement Board. On March 30th the bill was scheduled for work session in Senate Government Affairs where it was do passed, and re-referred to Senate Finance. This bill has also received eligibility for exemption. The bill was head on April 22nd and no action was taken. On May 8th an amendment was presented and the Committee voted to amend and do pass as amended. On May 13th the bill was read a second time and amended. On May 14th the Senate voted 19-yeas and 2-excused and ordered the bill to the Assembly. On May 18th the bill was referred to the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means. The bill was heard on May 23, 2015 and voted do pass. On May 27th the bill was read a second time and on May 28th the bill was read for the third time and passed 42-yeas no-nays. The bill was ordered to the Senate. On June 1st the bill was enrolled and delivered to the Governor. **Status: Passed - Approved and signed by the Governor.** **Board Position: Support.**