
HOUSE BILL No. 1561

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 36-8-8.

Synopsis: 1977 Fund membership. Permits a police officer or firefighter who: (1) is an active member of the 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund (1977 fund) with an employer that participates in the 1977 fund; and (2) separates from that employer to become employed as a full-time police officer or firefighter with a second employer that participates in the 1977 fund; is a member of the 1977 fund without meeting for a second time the age limitations and the physical and mental requirements for admission to the 1977 fund. Provides that a police officer or firefighter who has been employed as a full-time police officer or firefighter with more than one employer that participates in the 1977 fund is entitled to receive credit for all years of service as a police officer or firefighter with all employers that participate in the 1977 fund.

Effective: July 1, 2013.

Harman, Ober, Wesco, Moed

January 22, 2013, read first time and referred to Committee on Employment, Labor and Pensions.

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First Regular Session 118th General Assembly (2013)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2012 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

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HOUSE BILL No. 1561



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning pensions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. IC 36-8-8-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.119-2012,
2 SECTION 219, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 7. (a) Except as provided in
4 subsections (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (k), (l), and (m):
5 (1) a police officer; or
6 (2) a firefighter;
7 who is less than thirty-six (36) years of age and who passes the baseline
8 statewide physical and mental examinations required under section 19
9 of this chapter shall be a member of the 1977 fund and is not a member
10 of the 1925 fund, the 1937 fund, or the 1953 fund.
11 (b) A police officer or firefighter with service before May 1, 1977,
12 who is hired or rehired after April 30, 1977, may receive credit under
13 this chapter for service as a police officer or firefighter prior to entry
14 into the 1977 fund if the employer who rehires the police officer or
15 firefighter chooses to contribute to the 1977 fund the amount necessary
16 to amortize the police officer's or firefighter's prior service liability over
17 a period of not more than forty (40) years, the amount and the period



1 to be determined by the system board. If the employer chooses to make
 2 the contributions, the police officer or firefighter is entitled to receive
 3 credit for the police officer's or firefighter's prior years of service
 4 without making contributions to the 1977 fund for that prior service. In
 5 no event may a police officer or firefighter receive credit for prior years
 6 of service if the police officer or firefighter is receiving a benefit or is
 7 entitled to receive a benefit in the future from any other public pension
 8 plan with respect to the prior years of service.

9 (c) Except as provided in section 18 of this chapter, a police officer
 10 or firefighter is entitled to credit for all years of service after April 30,
 11 1977, with the police or fire department of an employer covered by this
 12 chapter.

13 (d) A police officer or firefighter with twenty (20) years of service
 14 does not become a member of the 1977 fund and is not covered by this
 15 chapter, if the police officer or firefighter:

16 (1) was hired before May 1, 1977;

17 (2) did not convert under IC 19-1-17.8-7 or IC 19-1-36.5-7 (both
 18 of which were repealed September 1, 1981); and

19 (3) is rehired after April 30, 1977, by the same employer.

20 (e) A police officer or firefighter does not become a member of the
 21 1977 fund and is not covered by this chapter if the police officer or
 22 firefighter:

23 (1) was hired before May 1, 1977;

24 (2) did not convert under IC 19-1-17.8-7 or IC 19-1-36.5-7 (both
 25 of which were repealed September 1, 1981);

26 (3) was rehired after April 30, 1977, but before February 1, 1979;
 27 and

28 (4) was made, before February 1, 1979, a member of a 1925,
 29 1937, or 1953 fund.

30 (f) A police officer or firefighter does not become a member of the
 31 1977 fund and is not covered by this chapter if the police officer or
 32 firefighter:

33 (1) was hired by the police or fire department of a unit before May
 34 1, 1977;

35 (2) did not convert under IC 19-1-17.8-7 or IC 19-1-36.5-7 (both
 36 of which were repealed September 1, 1981);

37 (3) is rehired by the police or fire department of another unit after
 38 December 31, 1981; and

39 (4) is made, by the fiscal body of the other unit after December
 40 31, 1981, a member of a 1925, 1937, or 1953 fund of the other
 41 unit.

42 If the police officer or firefighter is made a member of a 1925, 1937, or

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1 1953 fund, the police officer or firefighter is entitled to receive credit
 2 for all the police officer's or firefighter's years of service, including
 3 years before January 1, 1982.

4 (g) As used in this subsection, "emergency medical services" and
 5 "emergency medical technician" have the meanings set forth in
 6 IC 16-18-2-110 and IC 16-18-2-112. A firefighter who:

7 (1) is employed by a unit that is participating in the 1977 fund;

8 (2) was employed as an emergency medical technician by a
 9 political subdivision wholly or partially within the department's
 10 jurisdiction;

11 (3) was a member of the public employees' retirement fund during
 12 the employment described in subdivision (2); and

13 (4) ceased employment with the political subdivision and was
 14 hired by the unit's fire department due to the reorganization of
 15 emergency medical services within the department's jurisdiction;

16 shall participate in the 1977 fund. A firefighter who participates in the
 17 1977 fund under this subsection is subject to sections 18 and 21 of this
 18 chapter.

19 (h) A police officer or firefighter does not become a member of the
 20 1977 fund and is not covered by this chapter if the individual was
 21 appointed as:

22 (1) a fire chief under a waiver under IC 36-8-4-6(c); or

23 (2) a police chief under a waiver under IC 36-8-4-6.5(c);

24 unless the executive of the unit requests that the 1977 fund accept the
 25 individual in the 1977 fund and the individual previously was a
 26 member of the 1977 fund.

27 (i) A police matron hired or rehired after April 30, 1977, and before
 28 July 1, 1996, who is a member of a police department in a second or
 29 third class city on March 31, 1996, is a member of the 1977 fund.

30 (j) A park ranger who:

31 (1) completed at least the number of weeks of training at the
 32 Indiana law enforcement academy or a comparable law
 33 enforcement academy in another state that were required at the
 34 time the park ranger attended the Indiana law enforcement
 35 academy or the law enforcement academy in another state;

36 (2) graduated from the Indiana law enforcement academy or a
 37 comparable law enforcement academy in another state; and

38 (3) is employed by the parks department of a city having a
 39 population of more than one hundred ten thousand (110,000) but
 40 less than one hundred fifty thousand (150,000);

41 is a member of the fund.

42 (k) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a police

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- 1 officer or firefighter:
- 2 (1) who is a member of the 1977 fund before a consolidation
- 3 under IC 36-3-1-5.1 or IC 36-3-1-6.1;
- 4 (2) whose employer is consolidated into the consolidated law
- 5 enforcement department or the fire department of a consolidated
- 6 city under IC 36-3-1-5.1 or IC 36-3-1-6.1; and
- 7 (3) who, after the consolidation, becomes an employee of the
- 8 consolidated law enforcement department or the consolidated fire
- 9 department under IC 36-3-1-5.1 or IC 36-3-1-6.1;
- 10 is a member of the 1977 fund without meeting the requirements under
- 11 sections 19 and 21 of this chapter.
- 12 (l) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, if:
- 13 (1) before a consolidation under IC 8-22-3-11.6, a police officer
- 14 or firefighter provides law enforcement services or fire protection
- 15 services for an entity in a consolidated city;
- 16 (2) the provision of those services is consolidated into the law
- 17 enforcement department or fire department of a consolidated city;
- 18 and
- 19 (3) after the consolidation, the police officer or firefighter
- 20 becomes an employee of the consolidated law enforcement
- 21 department or the consolidated fire department under
- 22 IC 8-22-3-11.6;
- 23 the police officer or firefighter is a member of the 1977 fund without
- 24 meeting the requirements under sections 19 and 21 of this chapter.
- 25 (m) A police officer or firefighter who is a member of the 1977 fund
- 26 under subsection (k) or (l) may not be:
- 27 (1) retired for purposes of section 10 of this chapter; or
- 28 (2) disabled for purposes of section 12 of this chapter;
- 29 solely because of a change in employer under the consolidation.
- 30 **(n) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a police**
- 31 **officer or firefighter who:**
- 32 **(1) is an active member of the 1977 fund with an employer**
- 33 **that participates in the 1977 fund; and**
- 34 **(2) separates from that employer to become employed as a**
- 35 **full-time police officer or firefighter with a second employer**
- 36 **that participates in the 1977 fund;**
- 37 **is a member of the 1977 fund without meeting for a second time the**
- 38 **age limitation under subsection (a) and the requirements under**
- 39 **sections 19 and 21 of this chapter. A police officer or firefighter to**
- 40 **whom this subsection applies is entitled to receive credit for all**
- 41 **years of service as a police officer or firefighter with all employers**
- 42 **that participate in the 1977 fund.**

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1 SECTION 2. IC 36-8-8-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.35-2012,
2 SECTION 121, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2013]: Sec. 8. (a) Each fund member shall
4 contribute during the period of the fund member's employment or for
5 thirty-two (32) years, whichever is shorter, an amount equal to six
6 percent (6%) of the salary of a first class patrolman or firefighter.
7 However, the employer may pay all or a part of the contribution for the
8 member. The amount of the contribution, other than contributions paid
9 on behalf of a member, shall be deducted each pay period from each
10 fund member's salary by the disbursing officer of the employer. The
11 employer shall send to the system board each year on March 31, June
12 30, September 30, and December 31, for the calendar quarters ending
13 on those dates, or an alternate date established by the rules of the
14 system board, a certified list of fund members and a warrant issued by
15 the employer for the total amount deducted for fund members'
16 contributions.

17 (b) After December 31, 2011, an employer shall submit:

18 (1) the list described in subsection (a) in a uniform format through
19 a secure connection over the Internet or through other electronic
20 means specified by the system board; and

21 (2) the contributions paid by or on behalf of a member under
22 subsection (a) by electronic funds transfer.

23 (c) Except as provided in section **7(n) or 7.2** of this chapter, if a
24 fund member ends the fund member's employment other than by death
25 or disability before the fund member completes twenty (20) years of
26 active service, the system board shall return to the fund member in a
27 lump sum the fund member's contributions plus interest at a rate
28 specified by rule by the system board. If the fund member returns to
29 service, the fund member is entitled to credit for the years of service for
30 which the fund member's contributions were refunded if the fund
31 member repays the amount refunded to the fund member in either a
32 lump sum or a series of payments determined by the system board.

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