

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE PENSIONS AND BENEFITS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Steven Johnson at 9:00am on Wednesday, February 10, 2016, 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Virgil Peck – Excused

Committee staff present:

David Wiese, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Reed Holwegner, Legislative Research Department

Lea Gerard, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

David Wiese, Assistant Revisor

Alan Conroy, Executive Director, KPERS

Faith Loretto, Planning and Research Officer, KPERS

Harvey Ludwick, Kansas Association of Retired School Personnel

March Galbraith, State Employee Association of Kansas

William H. Layes, Kansas Coalition of Public Retirees

Jerry Marlatt, Kansas State Council of Fire Fighters

Ed Klumpp, Legislative Liaison Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

**Hearing on: HB2542 — Providing post-retirement benefit increase (COLA) for certain retirants of KPERS.**

Chairman Johnson recognized David Wiese, Assistant Revisor who provided an overview on **HB2542 (Attachment 1)**. The bill provides a cost-of-living adjustment to each KPERS retirant who has been retired for at least five years as of July 01, 2016. Mr. Wiese answered questions from the Committee.

Chairman Johnson recognized Alan Conroy, Executive Director, KPERS who provided background information on **HB2542 (Attachment 2)**. The COLA is paid out on a sliding scale and the retiree would have to be retired for five years as of July 2, 2016 before there would be an adjustment. Based on the last valuation, there are 64,256 retirees and beneficiaries who would be eligible to receive a cost of living adjustment under **HB2542**. Mr. Conroy answered questions from the Committee.

Faith Loretto, Planning and Research Officer, KPERS provided a cost study on **HB2542 (Attachment 3)**.

Ms. Loretto and Mr. Conroy addressed questions from the Committee regarding the impact or amount on the UAL, actual returns on assumed rate of 8% and death and disability funds.

## CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Pensions and Benefits at 9:00am on Wednesday, February 10, 2016 in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

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### Proponents:

Harvey Ludwick, Kansas Association of Retired School Personnel, testified as a proponent of **HB2542** ([Attachment 4](#)) . Mr. Ludwick stood for questions from the Committee.

Marc Galbraith, State Employee Association of Kansas, testified as a proponent of **HB2542** ([Attachment 5](#)).

William H. Layes, Kansas Coalition of Public Retirees, testified as a proponent of **HB2542** ([Attachment 6](#)).

Jerry Marlatt, Kansas State Council of Fire Fighters, testified as a proponent of **HB2542** ([Attachment 7](#))

Ed Klumpp, Legislative Liaison Kansas Association of Chiefs of Police, presented written testimony in support of **HB2542** ([Attachment 8](#)).

There being no other proponents, opponents and neutral conferees, Chairman Johnson closed the hearing on **HB2542**.

### **Briefing on:**

David Wiese, Assistant Revisor provided an overview of the following three bills that are currently in Committee regarding Working after Retirement:

1. **HB2653** amends provisions relating to working after retirement for KPERS retirants.
2. **HB2654** provides an exception from the \$25,000 earnings limitation for retirees that are licensed public health retirees.
3. **HB2656** provides an exception from the \$25,000 earnings limitation for KPERs licensed school professionals who retire at age 62 or later.

Mr. Wiese stood for questions from the Committee.

*Representative Billinger moved, seconded by Representative Davis to approve minutes for February 03, 2016. The motion carried.*

Chairman Johnson advised the Working after Retirement issue is the largest topic the Committee needs to address at this time. Three key measures to be addressed are cost, liability and flexibility.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Next meeting scheduled for Monday, February 15, 2016.

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Unless specifically noted, the individual remarks recorded herein have not been transcribed verbatim. Individual remarks as reported herein have not been submitted to the individuals appearing before the committee for editing or corrections.