

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE PENSIONS AND BENEFITS COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Steven Johnson at 9:00am on Wednesday, February 17, 2016, 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

David Wiese, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Gordon Self, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Reed Holwegner, Legislative Research Department
Lea Gerard, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Melissa Glynn, Director Alvarez and Marsal
Alan Conroy, Executive Director, KPERS
David Wiese, Assistant Revisor
Chad Austin, Senior Vice President Government Relations, Kansas Hospital Association
Representative Shannon Francis, 125th District

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Informational briefing:

Chairman Johnson recognized Melissa Glynn, Director Alvarez and Marsal who provided an efficiency study regarding Kansas Public Employees Retirement System (KPERS) ([Attachment 1](#)). Ms. Glynn answered Committee questions.

Alan Conroy, Executive Director KPERS provided a memorandum of the Alvarez and Marsal consultants study dated January 27, 2016 ([Attachment 2](#)).

Hearing on: HB2656 — Providing a working after retirement exception for KPERS school members who retire at age 62 or later.

David Wiese, Assistant Revisor provided an overview of **HB2656** which would institute an exemption from the \$25,000 earnings limitation for licensed retirants who retire at age 62 or later ([Attachment 3](#)). Mr. Wiese answered questions from the Committee.

Alan Conroy, Executive Director KPERS provided a memorandum dated February 15, 2016 regarding **HB2656** ([Attachment 4](#)). Mr. Conroy answered questions from the Committee.

Discussion followed regarding new exemption from the working after retirement policy.

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There being no other proponents, opponents and neutral conferees, Chairman Johnson closed the hearing on **HB2656**.

Hearing on: HB2700 — Requiring certification by retirants that they have not entered into a prearranged agreement of employment prior to retirement and providing penalties for violations thereof.

David Wiese, Assistant Revisor provided an overview on **HB2700** ([Attachment 5](#)). Mr. Wiese stood for questions from the Committee.

Discussion followed by committee members regarding what constitutes a prearrangement, definite measure of enforcement to ensure compliance with the IRS requirement for bona fide retirement and to provide flexibility where needed.

Alan Conroy, Executive Director KPERS provided information regarding **HB2700** ([Attachment 6](#)). The bill will require members sign an affirmation on their application for retirement that they will not be employed with any participating employer for 60 days and have no prearrangement to return to work with any KPERS participating employer. Mr. Conroy stood for questions from the Committee.

There being no proponents, opponents and neutral conferees, Chairman Johnson closed the hearing on **HB2700**.

Hearing on: HB2654 — Exempting certain licensed health care professionals from KPERS working after retirement earnings limitation.

David Wiese, Assistant Revisor provided an overview on **HB2654** ([Attachment 7](#)). Mr. Wiese stood for questions from the Committee.

Chad Austin, Senior Vice President, Government Relations, Kansas Hospital Association testified as a proponents for **HB2654** ([Attachment 8](#)). Mr. Austin stood for questions from the Committee.

Representative Shannon Francis, 125th District testified as a proponent for **HB2654** ([Attachment 9](#)). Representative Francis stood for questions from the Committee.

Alan Conroy, Executive Director, KPERS provided an overview on **HB2654**, Health Care Professional Exemption ([Attachment 10](#)). Mr. Conroy stood for questions from the Committee.

There being no proponents, opponents and neutral conferees, Chairman Johnson closed the hearing on **HB2654**.

Discussion & possible action on: HB2653 — Striking sunset to KPERS school working after retirement exception and extending certain working after retirement exceptions upon submission of an assurance protocol and allowing retirants to return to work for a different participating

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.

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employer when such employer pays a 30% contribution rate.

*Representative Ward moved, seconded by Representative Hill, **HB2653** be passed.*

Discussion took place on the bill.

*Representative Trimmer made a substitute motion, seconded by Representative Hill to amend **HB2653** ([Attachment 11](#)) and ([Attachment 12](#)).*

Chairman Johnson recognized David Wiese, Assistant Revisor who provided an overview on the balloon amendments for **HB2653** dated February 17, 2016. Mr. Wiese stood for questions from the Committee.

Discussion returned to the amendments and bill.

The Committee discussed a possible policy change regarding amount of time to extend exemption for a hardship, special education or hard-to-fill position.

*Representative Edmonds moved and Representative Trimmer seconded, **HB2653** and its pending amendments be tabled. The motion passed.*

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.