

HOUSE PENSIONS AND BENEFITS COMMITTEE

Hon. Steven Johnson, Chairman
Hon. Kent Thompson, Vice Chairman
Hon. Ed Trimmer, R.M. Member

February 18, 2015
9:00 am
Room 152-S

Chief Judge Daniel D. Creitz
Thirty-First Judicial District
1 N. Washington
Iola, KS 66749
dancreizt@acdc.kscoxmail.com

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2360

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and this honorable committee for extending the opportunity to present testimony in support of HB 2360, which would add two positions to the Kansas Public Employees Retirement System Board of Trustees. The modification would leave in place the requirement that one Trustee position be from school employees and one trustee position be a non-school, and would designate one position to be from Police and Fireman and would designate one position be from judges retirement and raise the board size from nine to 11. I am Daniel D. Creitz, Chief Judge of the Thirty-First Judicial District and a member of the Executive Board of the Kansas District Judges Association (KDJA) serving as the KDJA Legislative Co-Chair.

'Kansas public employees', 'Police and Firemen' and 'Judges' each have a distinct retirement system. Each distinct system members should have representation on the Board of Trustees. There are over 247,000 public employee system beneficiaries or current employees. There are over 12,000 KP&F beneficiaries and current employees. KP&F make up approximately 4.5% of the total membership. There are 519 current or retired judges who make up .17% of all system members. The proposed changes would provide that each distinct system would have a member of that group on the KPERS board to be chosen by the members of their group. The following is an excerpt from the 2014 KPERS report setting forth current membership enrollment is attached.

PLAN MEMBERSHIP BY EMPLOYEE GROUP

Participating membership by statewide pension group as of December 31, 2013, (most recent actuarial valuation date) is as follows:

MEMBERSHIP BY RETIREMENT SYSTEMS⁽¹⁾

	KPERS	KP&F	Judges	Total
Retirees and beneficiaries currently receiving benefits ⁽²⁾	82,742	4,680	248	87,670
Terminated employees entitled to benefits but not yet receiving them	16,964	140	6	17,110
Inactive members, deferred disabled	2,436	208	0	2,644
Inactive members not entitled to benefits	26,696	1,034	.0	27,730
Current employees	147,957	7,224	265	155,446
Total	276,795 (95.33%)	13,286 (4.5%)	519 (.17%)	290,600

See KPERS 2104 Annual Report p. 26

<http://www.kpers.org/annualreport2014.pdf>