



International Brotherhood of Police Officers

A DIVISION OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

May 22, 2024

I am submitting this written testimony to the House Committee on Finance regarding House Bill No. 8243 on behalf of the members of the International Brotherhood of Police Officers (IBPO).

This act would provide an option for police officers or fire fighters to receive retirement allowances (pension), without reduction by the onerous penalties that are now in place of up to thirty eight percent (38%) of their final pension compensation, who after twenty (20) years of service may delay receipt of receiving their retirement allowance (pension) until they reach twenty-five years of service of total service.

Additionally, the current law would be amended and would also provide an option for police officers or firefighters to receive retirement allowances (pension), without reduction by the onerous penalties that are now in place of up to thirty eight percent (38%) of their final pension compensation after twenty (20) years of service and upon the police officer or firefighter reaching the age of fifty- seven (57).

There is no fiscal impact MERS system of ERSRI by amending the current law. In what is a very challenging labor market and where recruitment and retention of police officers is at an all-time low; the onerous penalties that are currently in place that effect long serving police officers or fire fighters is ludicrous. The elimination of the penalties in the specified circumstances spelled out in House Bill No. 8243 is not only sensible legislation but good public policy.

On behalf of IBPO I urge the members of the committee and the House to pass House Bill No. 8243.

Respectfully

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NAGE/IBPO