

HB 246 -- KANSAS CITY POLICE RETIREMENT SYSTEM

CO-SPONSORS: Bishop, Johnson (47), Skaggs, LeVota, Young, Ervin, Wilson (42), Meiners, Jolly, Curls, Dusenber

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Retirement by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill revises provisions pertaining to the Kansas City Police Retirement System.

The Kansas City Police Department is required to grant authorized leave with pay to active police officers and civilian employees to attend educational seminars and similar functions for a period not to exceed 10 days in any calendar year. The bill requires that the educational seminars and similar functions be authorized by the Retirement Board.

If the City of Kansas City and the Kansas City Police Department adopt a program of incentives to encourage early retirement of members, the board is authorized to administer and pay the incentives established by the program. This provision is contingent upon the city requesting and agreeing to increase financial contributions to the police retirement system.

If the City of Kansas City and the Kansas City Police Department adopt a program of incentives to encourage early retirement of civilian employees, the Retirement Board for Civilian Employees is authorized to administer and pay the incentives established by the program. This provision is contingent upon the city requesting and agreeing to increase financial contributions to the civilian retirement system.

The bill also requires a funeral benefit of \$1,000 to be paid in addition to all other benefits for a civilian employee. Proper proof of death is required. If the funeral benefit for a civilian employee is less than the employee's accumulated contributions, an amount equal to the difference is required to be paid to the employee's designated beneficiary or personal representative.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that in order for the retirement incentive plan to be implemented, the bill requires the City of Kansas City and the Kansas City Police and Civilian Retirement Board to agree to fund and administer the plan. Members of the board should not have to use personal vacation time in order to attend educational seminars and similar functions that improve a member's professional development and the administration of the

retirement board.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Bishop; and James Pyle, Executive Director, Kansas City Police and Civilian Retirement System.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Joseph Deering, Legislative Analyst