

HB 1218 -- KANSAS CITY POLICE RETIREMENT SYSTEM

SPONSOR: Johnson (47)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Retirement by a vote of 12 to 0.

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

(1) Authorizes any member who retired prior to August 28, 2000, and any member whose pension is payable due to disability and who retired after August 28, 2000, but before August 28, 2001, to receive an equalizing cost-of-living adjustment not to exceed an aggregate amount for all years of 5% of the member's base pension. A member is not prohibited from receiving a base pension and legally authorized cost-of-living adjustments;

(2) Requires the equalizing adjustment to be computed each year on the base pension. Any increase in the amount of the adjustment will be determined by the retirement board;

(3) Requires the retirement board to base its determination to grant the equalizing adjustment on the advice of the plan's actuary in order to maintain the solvency of the trust fund assets used for the retirement system;

(4) Specifies the effective date of the equalizing adjustment; and

(5) Defines the terms "member" and "base pension" and applies the terms to the new provisions contained in the bill.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that subject to board approval, the bill will allow retired police officers of the Kansas City Police Department to receive an equalizing cost-of-living adjustment not to exceed 5% of their base pension each year beginning August 29, 2004. Police officers in Kansas City are not covered by the Social Security system, and the adjustment will help offset their expenses.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Smith (118) for Representative Johnson (47); and Kansas City Police Retirement System.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Joseph Deering, Legislative Analyst