

HCS HB 1357 -- POLICE AND CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
OF KANSAS CITY

SPONSOR: Smith, 118 (Johnson, 47)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Retirement by a vote of 9 to 0.

Currently, members who retire from the Police Retirement System of Kansas City and the Civilian Employees' Retirement System of the Police Department of Kansas City are entitled to a supplemental retirement benefit of \$50 per month in addition to the base benefit and cost-of-living increases. To qualify for the \$50 supplemental benefit, this substitute requires members retiring after August 28, 2006, to have at least 25 years of creditable service or retire due to injury or illness occurring in the line of duty. A member retiring due to injury or illness not occurring in the line of duty must have at least 15 years of creditable service under the police retirement system and at least 20 years of creditable service under the civilian retirement system. The term "member" includes the surviving spouse of a member who qualifies under this provision.

The substitute also eliminates the requirement that the determination of cost-of-living increases to the supplemental benefit be based on advice from the plan's actuary.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that retirees of the system, in addition to their retirement benefit, currently receive a supplemental benefit. A member retiring with five years of service receives the same supplemental benefit as a member retiring with 25 years of service. The bill will reward only those members who have long-term employment.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Johnson (47); Police Retirement System of Kansas City; and Civilian Employees' Retirement System of the Police Department of Kansas City.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Marc Webb, Legislative Analyst