SB 172 -- POLICE AND CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF KANSAS CITY

SPONSOR: Ridgeway (Flook)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Special Committee on Retirement by a vote of 8 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. This bill specifies that any member who retires due to completing at least 25 years of service, reaching mandatory retirement age, or sustaining a permanent disability forcing him or her to retire prior to August 28, 2001, will receive a monthly equalizing supplemental compensation of \$10. The supplemental compensation may be adjusted by cost-of-living increases annually, but the aggregate of both cannot exceed 25% of the member's base pension. The term "member" includes the surviving spouse of a member who qualifies under this provision.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010.

PROPONENTS: 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 Senator Ridgeway; and Jim Pyle, Police and Civilian Employees' Retirement System of Kansas City.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.