

HB 568 -- PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL RETIREMENT

SPONSOR: Black (7)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Pensions by a vote of 8 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 7 to 1.

This bill authorizes a political subdivision to hold a vote on whether to cover emergency fire and police telecommunicators, jailors, and emergency medical service personnel as public safety personnel members in the Missouri local government employee's retirement system (LAGERS). If the election is made then the minimum retirement age for public safety personnel is 55 years of age.

This bill is similar to SB 124 (2019).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will authorize political subdivisions to cover emergency fire and police telecommunicators, jailors, and emergency medical service personnel as public safety personnel under LAGERS. Qualifying as public safety personnel would allow these members to retire at age 55 instead of 60. These personnel work hard in these positions and it can take a toll on the body as you get older.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Black; Missouri Ambulance Association; Missouri Lagers; and Sean Hill, Linn County Ambulance District.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.