

HB 723 -- SCHOOL EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT

SPONSOR: Pike

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 9 to 0.

This bill allows a retired member of the Public School or Public Education Employees Retirement System who has elected a reduced retirement allowance to provide for survivor benefits for his or her spouse to have the retirement allowance increased to the single life annuity amount, with no survivor benefits, if the member and his or her spouse became divorced prior to September 1, 2017 or if they get a modified dissolution decree that provides for sole retention by the retired person of all rights in the retirement allowance after September 1, 2017.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill will allow divorced retired school teachers who elected a joint and survivor option at retirement to remove the ex-spouse from the retirement benefit so that the benefit will pop-up to a normal annuity as long as both parties agree.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Pike.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.