

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA



Session 2009

Legislative Actuarial Note

RETIREMENT

BILL NUMBER: House Bill 1998 (First Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Reciprocity for ORP Service.

SPONSOR(S): Representative Haire

FUNDS AFFECTED: General Fund, Highway Fund, and Receipt Funds

SYSTEM OR PROGRAM AFFECTED: Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System and Optional Retirement Plan

EFFECTIVE DATE: When it becomes law.

BILL SUMMARY: Amends the law to allow members, who during their work history have been a member of the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System and the Optional Retirement Program, to be eligible to use the service in the Optional Retirement Program to qualify for retirement eligibility in the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System.

ESTIMATED IMPACT ON STATE: Both, Buck Consultants, the Retirement System's actuary, and Hartman & Associates, the General Assembly's actuary, agree that the cost would be negligible.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

Teachers' & State Employees' Retirement System

The cost estimates of the System's Actuary are based on the employee data, actuarial assumptions and actuarial methods used to prepare the December 31, 2008 actuarial valuation of the fund. The data included 325,618 active members with an annual payroll of \$13.3 billion, 151,353 retired members in receipt of annual pensions totaling \$3.1 billion and actuarial value of assets equal to \$55.1 billion. Significant actuarial assumptions used include (a) an investment return rate of 7.25%, (b) average salary increase rate of 6.25%, (c) the 1994 Group Annuity Mortality Tables (tables are not adjusted for male teachers, set forward one year for female teachers, set forward two years for general employees and law enforcement officers and set forward two years for the beneficiaries of deceased member), and (d) rates of separation from active service based on System experience. The actuarial cost method used was the entry age normal cost method and a frozen liquidation period of nine years. Detailed information concerning these assumptions and methods is shown in the actuary's report, which is available upon request from Stanley Moore.

SOURCES OF DATA: Buck Consultants
Hartman & Associates, LLC

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS: None

FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION: (919) 733-4910. The above information is provided in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 120-114 and applicable rules of the North Carolina Senate and House of Representatives.

PREPARED BY: Stanley Moore

APPROVED BY: Marilyn Chism, Director
Fiscal Research Division

DATE: June 7, 2010



Signed Copy Located in the NCGA Principal Clerk's Offices