FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

81st Oregon Legislative Assembly – 2021 Regular Session Legislative Fiscal Office

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Measure Description:

Provides that members, officers and certain employees of State Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision qualify as police officers under Public Employees Retirement System.

Government Unit(s) Affected:

Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision (BPPPS), Oregon State Police (OSP), Public Employees Retirement System (PERS)

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Costs related to the measure may require budgetary action - See analysis.

Analysis:

Senate Bill 42 extends the police and fire benefits in the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) to members and officers of the State Board of Parole and Post-Prison Supervision (BPPPS) and employees of the Board whose duties include in-person contact with adults in custody, adults on supervision, or adults on the sex offender registry. The measure accomplishes this by including these BPPPS members and officers in the definition of "police officer." The -1 amendment specifies that the police and fire benefit extend only those BPPPS members and officers with in-person contact who are classified as other than secretarial or clerical.

Presently, PERS has a special classification for police officers and fire fighters due to the high risk, high stress nature of their jobs. In addition to law enforcement officers, the current definition of "police officer" includes employees of the Department of Corrections (DOC) whose duties include the custody or transfer of adults in custody, parole and probation officers, and employees of youth correctional facilities and juvenile detention facilities whose primary jobs are the custody, control, treatment, investigation, or supervision of juveniles placed in such facilities.

The cost to PERS is indeterminate due to a lack of data on the number of employees affected by the definition change but is anticipated to be minimal. PERS operations could be affected depending on the number of BPPPS members and officers who would newly be included under Senate Bill 42.

BPPPS anticipates a fiscal impact to be \$107,483 General Fund per biennium (\$53,741 per year) in additional personal services costs. This estimate was calculated using the Department of Corrections Blended PERS Rate that includes DOC employees that meet the Police and Fire definitions.