

**HB 2283 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans**

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**Prepared By:** Beverly Schoonover, LPRO Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 3/16

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Proposes changes to current law for the Public Employees Retirement System. Updates withdrawal and beneficiary provisions for judge members. Updates definitions. Allows a member to withdraw their contributions from their loss of membership account when they again go inactive. Changes formula used to calculate tax remedy. Extends time the Police and Fire unit can purchase retirement credit to up to 90 days following retirement. Expands beneficiary provisions for members who did not designate a beneficiary before their death, or their beneficiary did not survive the member. Requires PERS to provide estimates to surviving spouses regarding alternative pre-retirement death benefits for Tier One and Tier members. Increases time allowed for bereaved spouse of Tier One and Tier Two members to elect death benefit alternatives. Allows payout of pre-retirement Individual Account Program death benefit to small estates. Removes requirement that members who accrue retirement credit for periods of disability have at least 10 years or more of retirement credit and become disabled by reasons of injury or disease while in the actual performance of duty. Mandates participating employers do not change or modify data provided to PERS after disputes unless court ordered or if modifications are needed from dispute resolution. Provides for expedited review of the Act by the Supreme Court upon petition by adversely affected parties.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) provides retirement benefits for state agencies and approximately 900 units of local government. PERS is overseen by a five-member board that appoints an executive director to manage the agency's daily operations including the management of benefits for more than 393,000 active, inactive, and retired members and beneficiaries.

The PERS 2023-2028 Strategic Plan suggests the need for modernization of their service delivery model and improved information technology. On March 28, 2022, the PERS Board voted unanimously to seek statutory changes to provide clarification on existing laws, align standards, and improve benefit processes in advance of the agency's technology modernization efforts.

House Bill 2283 proposes changes to current law relating to judge members; definitions; withdrawals by inactive members; tax remedies; purchase of police and firefighter retirement credit; designated beneficiaries; payouts for small estate affidavits; retirement credit during periods of disability; and locking member data. The measure also gives jurisdiction to the Supreme Court to review petitions submitted by people who are or who will be impacted by this act and petitions under this section will be expedited by the Court.