
DIGEST

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HB 56 Reengrossed

2016 Regular Session

Leger

Abstract: Increases the age of retirement eligibility and reduces the accrual rate for new members, those hired on or after Aug. 15, 2016, of the Firefighters' Pension and Relief Fund in the city of New Orleans (NOFF).

Present law provides that a member of NOFF is eligible to retire if he has 12 years of creditable service and has attained a specified age. For persons hired on or after Jan. 1, 1968, but prior to Jan. 1, 2015, the specified age of retirement eligibility is 50 and for persons hired on or after Jan. 1, 2015, the specified age is 52. Proposed law retains present law for those hired prior to Aug. 15, 2016, but for those hired on or after that date, provides that the specified age of retirement eligibility is the retirement age defined by the Social Security Act, less 10 years.

Present law authorizes a member who has at least 12 years of creditable service, but who has not yet attained the specified age of retirement eligibility, to leave employment and begin receiving his benefit check upon attaining his specified retirement age. Provides for distribution of his benefit to his widow, children, or estate if he dies before reaching the age of retirement eligibility and to his widow and minor children if he dies after he starts receiving a benefit. Proposed law retains present law except to change the age of retirement eligibility for new employees in conformity with proposed law discussed above.

Present law provides that for a member of NOFF hired on or after Jan. 1, 2015, his retirement benefit shall be calculated as follows: 2.75% x (5-year Final Average Compensation (FAC)) x years of service.

Proposed law retains present law for those hired prior to Aug. 15, 2016, but for those hired on or after that date, the benefit shall be calculated as follows: 2.5% x (5-year FAC) x years of service.

Effective August 15, 2016.

(Amends R.S. 11:3384(A)(2), (B)(2), and (D)(2) and 3386(B); Adds R.S. 11:3384(A)(3), (B)(3), and (D)(3))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Retirement to the original bill:

1. Add an effective date.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Make proposed law applicable to firefighters who enter employ of the fire department on or after Aug. 15, 2016, rather than on or after Jan. 1, 2017.
2. Change the proposed retirement age from 57 to the Social Security retirement age, less 10 years.