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DIGEST

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SB 12 Reengrossed

2018 Regular Session

Peacock

Present law, relative to the Municipal Police Employees' Retirement System (MPERS), provides for definitions.

Proposed law defines "student" to mean a person who satisfies the following criteria:

- (1) Is enrolled in an accredited high school or postsecondary institution.
- (2) Is classified as full-time.

Proposed law defines the "surviving child" of a member to mean a child of the member by birth, adoption, or filiation who is also one of the following:

- (1) An unmarried person under age 18.
- (2) An unmarried student under age 23.
- (3) A person with a mental disability or total physical disability who is dependent on a legal guardian for subsistence.

Proposed law provides that a child, for purposes of defining "surviving child," shall include the following:

- (1) The issue of a marriage of a member.
- (2) A legally adopted child of a member.
- (3) A child born of a female member of the system
- (4) A child of a male member of the system, if a court has rendered a judgement of filiation declaring the paternity of such member for the child or the member has formally acknowledged the child.

Present law provides the qualifications for payment of survivor benefits accrued by an active contributing member who dies before retirement.

Proposed law specifies that any payment of a survivor benefit to a child shall be in accordance with the definitions provided in proposed law.

Proposed law specifies that qualifying survivor's benefits are payable upon application therefor and become effective the day following the death of the member.

Proposed law prohibits the board of trustees from collecting overpayments of a survivor benefit paid in administrative error prior to June 30, 2018, to the surviving child of a member whose death occurred on or before June 30, 2017, except in the case of fraud.

Effective June 30, 2018.

(Amends R.S. 11:2213(22), 2220(B)(2), 2241.8, and 2242.8; Adds R.S. 11:2213(23) and (24) and 2225(E))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Retirement to the original bill

1. Makes technical changes.

Senate Floor Amendments to engrossed bill

1. Make technical changes.
2. Prohibits the board of trustees from collecting overpayments of a survivor benefit paid in administrative error under certain circumstances.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Add to the definition of "surviving child" a child formally acknowledged by a male member of the system.