

## **INDEPENDENT FISCAL OFFICE**

January 11, 2022

The Honorable Seth M. Grove Chairman House State Government Committee 7 East Wing Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Requested Actuarial Note for House Bill 1875, Printer's Number 2126

Dear Chairman Grove:

This letter responds to your request of December 29, 2021 concerning an actuarial note for House Bill 1875, Printer's Number 2126. The bill would amend Title 71 (State Government) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in retirement for State employees and officers, to include installation police officers at Fort Indiantown Gap or any other designated Commonwealth military installation or facility commissioned under 51 Pa.C.S. § 711 as "enforcement officers." The bill would reduce the age at which superannuation is achieved for these individuals from age 65 to age 55, or age 60 to age 50, depending on when the individuals were first hired under this title. Currently, there are 19 employees that would be affected by this legislation. The legislation also sets forth provisions to allow the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs to pay any change in the accrued liability in equal dollar installments as a percentage of compensation of all affected active members and active participants over a period of 10 years. The bill would take effect 60 days after being signed into law.

Under section 615-B of the Administrative Code of 1929, the Independent Fiscal Office (IFO) has the responsibility to review legislative changes that may affect public employee pension or retirement plans and to provide actuarial notes for such legislation. The IFO received preliminary cost estimates from the State Employees' Retirement System (SERS), which projected a \$35,000 cost in perpetuity (subject to adjustments in payroll, workforce, etc.) from the changes, and an additional \$58,000 in annual costs for the decade following enactment due to a projected increase of \$406,000 in the unfunded pension liability. Based on these preliminary cost estimates from SERS, the IFO determined that the actuarial cost impact from House Bill 1875, Printer's Number 2126 would not rise to a level that requires a full actuarial analysis prior to further consideration by the General Assembly. The office reviewed the legislation for actuarial cost impact, but it has not reviewed the provisions for legal, administrative or policy implications.

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I trust this letter adequately responds to your request. If I may provide further assistance, please contact me at (717) 230-8293.

Sincerely,

Matthew J. Knith

Matthew J. Knittel Director, Independent Fiscal Office

cc: Governor Tom Wolf Members of the General Assembly