

HB 1086 -- PUBLIC SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT

SPONSOR: Lair

COMMITTEE ACTIONS: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Pensions by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on Financial Institutions and Taxation by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill allows any individual receiving a retirement allowance from the Public School Retirement System of Missouri or the Public Education Employee Retirement System who has elected a reduced retirement allowance with his or her spouse as the beneficiary to have the retirement allowance increased to the amount the retired member would be receiving had the retired member elected a non-reduced allowance if the marriage of the retired person and the nominated spouse is dissolved on or after September 1, 2015, and if the dissolution decree provides for sole retention by the retired person of all rights in the retirement allowance.

Any increase in the retirement allowance must be effective upon the receipt of an application for the increase and a certified copy of the decree of dissolution that meets the requirements of these provisions.

The bill requires a nomination of a successor beneficiary to be filed within one year, instead of the current 90 days, of the remarriage.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill allows for a pop-up provision in the event a retired member gets divorced and that person is eligible to keep all of his or her retirement benefits under the court decree.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Lair; Public School Retirement System of Missouri; Missouri State Teachers Association; and Jim Kreider, Missouri Retired Teachers Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.