

**State Contributions to the  
Municipal Police Officers' Retirement System (MPORS)  
And Firefighters' Unified Retirement System (FURS)**

**History**

The state of Montana collects a tax on insurance premiums written in Montana. The State Auditor collects the insurance premium tax. The original legislation was enacted during the sixth Legislative Session, January 1899. The legislation allowed each city or town to create a disability retirement fund that was funded by the insurance premium taxes.

**Municipal Police Officers' Retirement System (MPORS)**

Local cities administered their own police retirement plans until the consolidation of the retirement plans in first and second-class cities into the statewide MPORS in 1977. The Public Employees' Retirement Board administers the MPORS. After 1977 the insurance premium money used to fund the local police retirement plans is now paid to MPORS rather than each local city retirement plan. MPORS received payments from a fund set up to collect the insurance premium tax. Beginning July 1, 1997 the state deposited the insurance premium money to the general fund and the money for MPORS is paid from the general fund. The current annual state contribution to MPORS is 29.37% of compensation reported to MPORS (FY2004 \$7.2 million).

**Firefighters' Unified Retirement System (FURS)**

Local cities administered their own fire retirement plans until the consolidation of the retirement plans in first and second-class cities into the statewide FURS in 1981. The Public Employees' Retirement Board administers the FURS. After 1981 the insurance premium money used to fund the local fire retirement plans is now paid to FURS rather than each local city retirement plan. FURS received payments from a fund set up to collect the insurance premium tax. Beginning July 1, 1997 the state deposited the insurance premium money to the general fund and the money for FURS is paid from the general fund. The current annual state contribution to FURS is 32.61% of compensation reported to FURS (FY2004 \$6.5 million).