



State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee

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61st Montana Legislature

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November 13, 2009

TO: Interested persons and stakeholders in public employee retirement systems
FROM: Rachel Weiss, Staff Researcher
RE: Proposals to revise public employee retirement systems

The State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee (SAVA) directed me to notify all non-state-agency stakeholders in the state's public employee retirement systems that SAVA will review proposed revisions to the retirement systems at SAVA's April 22-23, 2010, meeting. In order to allow committee members and others to review the proposals, SAVA established March 31, 2010, as the date by which proposals must be submitted for SAVA review this interim.

SAVA is required by section 5-5-228(2) to conduct this review of proposed changes to the retirement systems. Section 5-5-228(3) gives SAVA the authority to set a deadline by which those proposals must be submitted to the committee for review. According to this section, SAVA shall:

- (d) solicit and review proposed statutory changes to any of the state's public employee retirement systems;
 - (e) report to the legislature on each legislative proposal reviewed by the committee. The report must include but is not limited to:
 - (i) a summary of the fiscal implications of the proposal;
 - (ii) an analysis of the effect that the proposal may have on other public employee retirement systems;
 - (iii) an analysis of the soundness of the proposal as a matter of public policy;
 - (iv) any amendments proposed by the committee; and
 - (v) the committee's recommendation on whether the proposal should be enacted by the legislature.
 - (f) attach the committee's report to any proposal that the committee considered and that is or has been introduced as a bill during a legislative session; and
 - (g) publish, for legislators' use, information on the state's public employee retirement systems.
- (3) The committee may:
- (a) specify the date by which proposals affecting a retirement system must be submitted to the committee for the review contemplated under subsection (2)(d); and
 - (b) request personnel from state agencies, including boards, political subdivisions, and the state public employee retirement systems, to furnish any information and render any assistance that the committee may request.

If the proposer has identified a holdover or unopposed state senator or an unopposed state representative who will formally request legislation to implement the proposal, legislative staff can assist that legislator to initiate the formal bill-request and bill-drafting process.

Any non-state-agency stakeholder or interested person that wishes to submit a proposal for SAVA's consideration can do so by completing a copy of the form "Proposal for Retirement System Legislation" that accompanies this memo. Please submit one form for each proposal you submit and provide as much detail and any analysis you have on the proposal, as SAVA's review duties extend beyond merely providing a forum at which to discuss general proposals. The form must be returned to legislative staff by March 31, 2010. It includes contact information for returning the form to SAVA.

Make as many copies of the form as you need and feel free to distribute it to other stakeholders. A copy of the form is posted at SAVA's web page: <http://www.leg.mt.gov/sava>.

If you have questions please contact me at 406-444-5367 or at rweiss@mt.gov.

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