



ISSUE BRIEF

House Bill 2849: Minimum Retirement Age Increase

IMRF Position:
OPPOSE

Sponsor(s):
Representative Wilhour

Proposed Change in the Law

This bill would increase the minimum retirement age for all members by one year as of the effective date of the legislation and then by an additional year five years after the effective date. The bill applies to current members, as well as new members. It is also applicable to all pension systems.

Reasons for Position

This proposal affects current members and annuitants, as well as new members, and therefore violates the Pension Protection Clause of the Illinois Constitution.

Because the proposal affects current members, it would also create administrative difficulties if it were to become law. The law would be effective upon signature by the Governor. Therefore, there would be no lead time for members to plan accordingly. Members who qualify for a pension under the current law but are not under the age requirement under this bill may have already applied for a pension prior to the law's effective date, including making various financial and employment decisions accordingly, but if their retirement application was still in process at the time the law passes, they would no longer be eligible for retirement.

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