

House Bill 4209:

IMRF Transfer to Downstate Police

IMRF Position: NEUTRAL Sponsor(s): Representative Katie Stuart Senator Rachelle Crowe

Proposed Change in the Law

This bill would create a new window similar to that created by House Bill 126 allowing active Article 3 members to transfer some IMRF public safety service to Article 3. It allows members to reinstate service in order to transfer the service and expands the types of service eligible to be transferred from the previous window. It also includes similar provisions for transfers from SURS to an Article 3 fund.

Reasons for Position

This is an extension to the window opened by HB 126 (Stuart) from 2021. It allows former IMRF participants who earned service credit as a law enforcement officer, including those who had performed "police duties" at a participating employer. The term "police duties" is not defined. The term is used elsewhere in the IMRF Article, however, in determining if an employee participates in IMRF or an Article 3 fund. IMRF has therefore set the definition of the term using the definition of eligibility for an Article 3 pension fund, which means sworn and commissioned service. This bill is intended to also include positions that are related to law enforcement, but are not sworn officers.

Because of the exclusion of these additional positions, several members who were denied the transfer by staff have appealed the decision to the IMRF Board. Staff has reviewed the pending appeals and this bill would allow all of those members to transfer their service.

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For More Information

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