The Legislative Committee met on Wednesday, February 15, 2012 via teleconference. Mr. John Piechocinski presided as Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m.

Roll Call
Present: Ms. Copper, Ms. Henry, Mr. Piechocinski
Absent: Ms. Faklis, Ms. Thompson

Also in attendance were staff members Mr. Kosiba, Ms. O’Brien, Mr. DeCleene, Mr. Duquette, and Ms. Shadid. Mr. Jason Anselment of the Illinois Association of Park Districts was also present.

(12-01-01)
The Committee began by discussing the minutes of the October 26, 2011 meeting of the Legislative Committee. Ms. Copper moved to approve the minutes of the meeting. Ms. Henry seconded the motion.

VOTE:
AYE: Copper, Henry, Piechocinski
NAY: None
ABSENT: Faklis, Thompson

By a vote of 3-0-0, the motion passed.

Ms. Faklis joined the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

(12-01-02)
Next, the Committee discussed House Bill 3969, sponsored by Representative Tom Cross, which would make two changes to the Pension Code. First, when a member of GARS receives a reciprocal pension and his or her Final Rate of Earnings, based on the service with the other system, is higher than the FRE that would have been used by GARS if there had been no reciprocity, the increased cost of the proportional benefit paid by GARS would be charged to the employer responsible for that higher FRE. This change would apply to employers participating in any of the reciprocal systems and would be collected directly from the employer, not from the reciprocal pension fund (unless one of the funds themselves was the employer paying the higher salary). Second, it allows GARS members who first participated in the system prior to 8/22/1994 to opt in to the earnings limitations on reciprocal benefits. After discussion, Ms. Henry moved to remain neutral on the bill. Ms. Copper seconded the motion.
VOTE:
   AYE: Copper, Faklis, Henry, Piechocinski
   NAY: None
   ABSENT: Thompson

By a vote of 4-0-0, the motion passed.

(12-01-03)
The Committee then discussed House Bill 4607, sponsored by Representative Sandy Cole, which would exclude from IMRF participation any employee of a participating IMRF employer whose employment does not benefit the public. The bill also makes technical corrections to this section of the Pension Code. After discussion, Ms. Henry moved to recommend that the Board oppose this bill. Ms. Faklis seconded the motion.

VOTE:
   AYE: Copper, Faklis, Henry, Piechocinski
   NAY: None
   ABSENT: Thompson

By a vote of 4-0-0, the motion passed.

The committee adjourned at 10:15 a.m.