MEETING NO. 2019-02-LC
ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT FUND
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES

The Legislative Committee met on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 via teleconference. Mr. David Miller presided as Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.

Roll Call
Present: Ms. Copper, Mr. Miller, Mr. Wallace, Ms. Williams
Absent: Ms. Thompson

Also in attendance were staff members Mr. Collins, Ms. Janicki Clark, Mr. Nannini, and Ms. Shadid, and Legislative Consultant Ms. Vazquez.

(19-02-01)
The Committee began by reviewing the minutes of the January 28, 2019 meeting of the Legislative Committee. Ms. Copper moved to approve the minutes of the meeting. Mr. Wallace seconded the motion.

VOTE:
AYE: Copper, Miller, Wallace, Williams
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Thompson

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

(19-02-02)
The Committee next reviewed House Bill 1625, sponsored by Representative Skillicorn. In the provisions applicable to IMRF, the bill would exclude sick and vacation from wages & service for new members. It also includes provisions to create a DC plan for the state-funded systems and would restrict TRS employers from making member contributions for their members. After discussion, Mr. Miller moved to recommend that the Board remain neutral on the bill. Mr. Wallace seconded the motion.

VOTE:
AYE: Copper, Miller, Wallace, Williams
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Thompson

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

(19-02-03)
The Committee next reviewed House Bill 2592, sponsored by Representative Cabello. This bill would exclude all new elected officials from participation in any Illinois public pension system. After discussion, Ms. Copper moved to recommend that the Board remain neutral on the bill. Ms. Williams seconded the motion.

VOTE:
AYE: Copper, Miller, Wallace, Williams
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Thompson

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

(19-02-04)
The Committee next reviewed House Bill 2748, sponsored by Representative Morrison. This bill would exclude all new elected officials from participation in IMRF. After discussion, Ms. Copper moved to recommend that the Board remain neutral on the bill. Mr. Wallace seconded the motion.

VOTE:
AYE: Copper, Miller, Wallace, Williams
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Thompson

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

(19-02-05)
The Committee next reviewed House Bill 2749, sponsored by Representative Morrison. This bill would allow employers in any local government pension system, including IMRF, to opt out of participation. After discussion, Ms. Copper moved to recommend that the Board oppose the bill. Ms. Williams seconded the motion.

VOTE:
AYE: Copper, Miller, Wallace, Williams
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Thompson

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

(19-02-06)
The Committee next reviewed House Bill 2750, sponsored by Representative Morrison. This bill would restrict participation for new elected officials to full-time officials only for IMRF, Chicago Municipal, and Cook County. It would also close the General Assembly Retirement System to new members. After discussion, Ms. Copper moved to recommend that the Board remain neutral on the bill. Mr. Wallace seconded the motion.

VOTE:
AYE: Copper, Miller, Wallace, Williams
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Thompson

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

(19-02-07)
The Committee next reviewed House Bill 3263, sponsored by Representative Mazzochi. This bill would require IMRF employers to post certain cost and enrollment information on their website. After discussion, Mr. Miller moved to recommend that the Board remain neutral on the bill. Ms. Copper seconded the motion.

VOTE:
AYE: Copper, Miller, Wallace, Williams
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Thompson

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

(19-02-08)
The Committee next reviewed House Bill 3518, sponsored by Representative Batinick. This bill would allow Tier 1 members in all systems, except downstate and Chicago police and fire funds, to choose an alternative COLA calculation equal to the CPI-u, with a minimum of 1% and a maximum of 5%. After discussion, Ms. Copper moved to recommend that the Board oppose the bill. Mr. Wallace seconded the motion.

VOTE:
AYE: Copper, Miller, Wallace, Williams
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Thompson

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

(19-02-09)
The Committee next reviewed Senate Bill 1236, sponsored by Senator Link. This bill would prohibit county board members from receiving an IMRF pension while also serving on the county board. After discussion, Ms. Copper moved to recommend that the Board oppose the bill. Ms. Williams seconded the motion.

VOTE:
AYE: Copper, Miller, Wallace, Williams
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Thompson

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

(19-02-10)
The Committee next reviewed Senate Bill 1671, sponsored by Senator Martinez. This bill would change the definition for emerging managers and exclude certain managers from competitive bid requirements. After discussion, Mr. Miller moved to recommend that the Board remain neutral on the bill. Ms. Copper seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**

- **AYE:** Copper, Miller, Wallace, Williams
- **NAY:** None
- **ABSTAIN:** None
- **ABSENT:** Thompson

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

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*(19-02-11)*

The Committee next reviewed Senate Bill 1698, sponsored by Senator Martinez. This bill would require all pension funds to broadcast meetings live online, with exclusions for portions of meetings where member or beneficiary medical or other privileged information will be discussed. After discussion, Mr. Miller moved to recommend that the Board remain neutral on the bill. Ms. Copper seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**

- **AYE:** Copper, Miller, Wallace, Williams
- **NAY:** None
- **ABSTAIN:** None
- **ABSENT:** Thompson

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

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*(19-02-12)*

The Committee next reviewed Senate Bill 1846, sponsored by Senator Schimpf. This bill would expand the definition of “emerging manager” to include veteran-owned firms. After discussion, Ms. Copper moved to recommend that the Board remain neutral on the bill. Ms. Williams seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**

- **AYE:** Copper, Miller, Wallace, Williams
- **NAY:** None
- **ABSTAIN:** None
- **ABSENT:** Thompson

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

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*(19-02-13)*

The Committee next reviewed Senate Bill 2022, sponsored by Senator Steans. This bill would open a one-year window allowing certain surviving spouses to re-establish eligibility for the surviving spouse benefit. After discussion, Ms. Copper moved to recommend that the Board remain neutral on the bill. Ms. Williams seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**
AYE: Copper, Miller, Wallace, Williams
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Thompson

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

(19-02-14)
The Committee next reviewed Senate Bill 2033, sponsored by Senator Plummer. This bill would limit the amount of retroactive service that elected officials can purchase to one month (currently, 50 months). After discussion, Mr. Wallace moved to recommend that the Board remain neutral on the bill. Ms. Copper seconded the motion.

VOTE:
AYE: Copper, Miller, Wallace, Williams
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Thompson

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

(19-02-15)
The Committee next reviewed Senate Bill 2060, sponsored by Senator Martinez. This bill would require funds to set the MWBE investment goals as a percentage of total fees paid, rather than total dollars invested. After discussion, Ms. Copper moved to recommend that the Board remain neutral on the bill. Ms. Williams seconded the motion.

VOTE:
AYE: Copper, Miller, Wallace, Williams
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Thompson

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

(19-02-16)
The Committee next reviewed Senate Bill 2062, sponsored by Senator Martinez. This bill would require all public agencies and units of government in Illinois to consider specific sustainability goals. After discussion, Mr. Miller moved to recommend that the Board remain neutral on the bill. Ms. Williams seconded the motion.

VOTE:
AYE: Copper, Miller, Wallace, Williams
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Thompson

By a vote of 4-0-0, the motion passed.
(19-02-17)
Staff then reviewed the status of the Board’s legislative agenda items with the Committee. House Bill 3446, sponsored by Representative Robinson, would allow members to retain disability benefit eligibility if they have a break in service of up to 3 months prior to disability and return to a different employer (currently, only applicable if they return to the same employer). This bill is proceeding normally and is currently assigned to the House pension committee.

House Bill 3054, sponsored by Representative Andrade, would allow the Board to assign up to 100% of the liability for a return to work violation (currently only up to 50%). There is strong opposition to this bill, including among legislators who are concerned with revisiting this proposal so soon after passing a compromise bill to allow for up to 50% liability sharing. After discussion, the Committee agreed with staff’s intended plan of action not to pursue the bill at this time so as not to harm other legislative priorities.

The committee adjourned by unanimous consent at 10:53 a.m.

Chair

Clerk

Date

8-23-2019

8-22-19