MEETING NO. 2015-03-LC
ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT FUND
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES

The Legislative Committee met on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 via teleconference. Ms. Sharon Thompson presided as Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10:33 a.m.

Roll Call
     Present: Ms. Copper, Ms. Henry, Mr. Stulir, Ms. Thompson
     Absent: None

Also in attendance was Trustee Mr. Piechocinski and staff members Mr. Kosiba, Ms. O'Brien, Mr. Duquette, Mr. Nannini, and Ms. Shadid and Legislative Consultant Ms. Vazquez.

(15-03-01)
The Committee began by discussing the minutes of the February 2, 2015 meeting of the Legislative Committee. Ms. Copper moved to approve the minutes of the meeting. Ms. Henry seconded the motion.

VOTE:
     AYE: Copper, Henry, Stulir, Thompson
     NAY: None
     ABSTAIN: None
     ABSENT: Kuehne, Stanish

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

(15-03-02)
The Committee next discussed Senate Bill 104. This bill, introduced by Senator Murphy, would, for new members only, exclude from pensionable wages payments received for unused sick and vacation time. It would also terminate a provision allowing members to convert unused, unpaid sick time to service credit. After discussion, Ms. Henry moved to recommend that the Board support the bill. Ms. Copper seconded the motion.

VOTE:
     AYE: Copper, Henry, Stulir, Thompson
     NAY: None
     ABSTAIN: None
     ABSENT: Kuehne, Stanish

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

(15-03-03)
The Committee next discussed House Bill 239. This bill, introduced by Representative Yingling, would, if there is a hearing regarding eligibility for a pension due to felony forfeiture, require the fund to notify the Attorney General and the state's attorney of the county in which the felony occurred. It also would grant those individuals that authority to contest the eligibility and seek judicial review. After discussion, Ms. Copper moved to recommend that the Board remain neutral on the bill. Ms. Henry seconded the motion.

VOTE:
AYE:	Copper, Henry, Stulir, Thompson
NAY:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Kuehne, Stanish

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

(15-03-04)
The Committee next discussed House Bill 1334. This bill, introduced by Representative Franks, would require that an annuity above $2,000 be offset by the amount of salary received in that position, if an annuitant returns to the same employer in a similar position. After discussion, Ms. Copper moved to recommend that the Board oppose the bill. Mr. Stulir seconded the motion.

VOTE:
AYE:	Copper, Henry, Stulir, Thompson
NAY:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Kuehne, Stanish

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

(15-03-05)
The Committee next discussed a proposed House Bill from Representative Harris. This bill would temporarily allow annuitants who retired prior to the passage of civil unions and/or marriage equality but then got married under those laws to repay their surviving spouse refund and regain eligibility for the benefit. For IMRF only, it would also allow surviving spouse benefits to be paid for the second spouse of annuitants who retired before March 26, 1992 and did not receive a refund of their surviving spouse contributions. After discussion, Ms. Henry moved to recommend that the Board remain neutral on the bill. Ms. Copper seconded the motion.

VOTE:
AYE:	Copper, Henry, Stulir, Thompson
NAY:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Kuehne, Stanish

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

(15-03-06)

The Committee next discussed Senate Bill 763. This bill, introduced by Senator Sandoval, would permit employers to allow their firefighters who are not eligible for participation in an Article 4 (downstate fire) pension plan to participate in IMRF SLEP. After discussion, Ms. Henry moved to recommend that the Board oppose the bill. Ms. Copper seconded the motion.

VOTE:

AYE:	Copper, Henry, Stulir, Thompson
NAY:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Kuehne, Stanish

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

The committee adjourned at 10:52 a.m.

Sharon U Thompson
Chair

Bonnie Rhadid
Clerk

_____
Date

_____
Date