

**LOCAL
FISCAL IMPACT**

Drafting Number: LLS 14-0548
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Foote
 Sen. Jones

Date: January 22, 2014
Bill Status: House Local Government
Fiscal Analyst: Alex Schatz (303-866-4375)

SHORT TITLE: RETIREES ON MUN VOL FIREFIGHTER PENSION BOARDS

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2014-2015	FY 2015-2016
State Revenue		
State Expenditures		
FTE Position Change		
Appropriation Required: None.		

Summary of Legislation

This bill authorizes municipalities that maintain a volunteer firefighter pension plan (VFP) to include on the VFP's board of trustees both retired fire department members and retired fire department members returned to active service. In addition, the bill provides that all retirees may vote in elections for the board of trustees.

Background

Statutes governing the composition and election of boards of trustees for VFPs in fire protection districts and for all old hire plans include language authorizing retired firefighters as members of the board. Statutes governing those other pension boards also provide that both active and retired firefighters participate in the election of board members.

Local Government Impact

The bill may result in a minimal increase to municipal expenditures. To the extent that municipalities with a VFP do not currently include retirees in balloting for board elections, the bill increases workload and costs associated with locating retirees and providing them with ballots and other election information. In addition, the bill may increase candidacy for board positions by retirees, resulting in a slight increase in the number of contested elections, with slightly higher administrative costs for such elections. Municipal VFP boards are not expressly prohibited from including retirees today, and the fiscal note therefore assumes that increased costs to comply with the bill are minimal.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 6, 2014, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 7, 2014, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Local Affairs
State Auditor

Personnel and Administration

Municipalities