



Illinois Police Officers' Pension Investment Fund
Lobbyist Report
January 27, 2023

I. COVID-19 EXECUTIVE ORDER (EO) 2023-01 RE-ISSUED

- a. According to an NBC report released on January 17, 2023, Illinois now has 5 Counties that are at 'High' Community COVID Level after IDPH undercounted cases. A delay in transfer data to the CDC resulted in an undercount of Illinois counties that received the 'High' listing. Additionally the number of counties with a 'Medium' level is increasing.
 - i. Chicago-area counties at 'medium' status: Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, Kankakee, and Kane.
 - ii. Central and Downstate counties at 'high' status: Hardin, Hancock, Logan, Marion, and Washington.
- b. IDPH is closely monitoring the XBB 'Kraken' variant which is spreading in the northeastern United States and leading to increased cases and hospitalizations.
- c. Governor Pritzker extended the statewide Disaster Proclamation declaration through **Saturday, February 4, 2023** and issued a new Executive Order extending previous executive orders.
- d. Similar to previous COVID-19 executive orders, public meetings may continue to be held remotely, in accordance with Public Act 101-0640, as long as certain requirements are met.

II. EARLY JANUARY 'LAME DUCK' SESSION

- a. The 102nd General Assembly convened was originally scheduled for January 4th-7th and the 10th before sine die adjournment. Due to the untimely passing of President Harmon's Mother, the Senate adjourned early on Friday, canceled Saturday and re-convened on Sunday (Jan 8th) and Monday (Jan 9th).
 - i. **Assault Weapons Ban – HB 5471**, immediately bans the sale and distribution of assault weapons, high-capacity magazines, and switches, which convert legal handguns into assault weapons. Requires existing owners of affected firearms to register their ownership.
 1. On January 18, 2023 the Illinois State Rifle Association filed a federal lawsuit over the state's gun ban.
 - ii. **Reproductive and Gender-Affirming Care - HB 4664**, addresses a number of issues, such as shielding health care patients and providers

- who provide reproductive and gender-affirming care from legal action from other states, applying Illinois law to cases involving reproductive issues.
- iii. **Paid Leave - SB 208**, requires that workers in Illinois can earn up to five paid leave days a year. The following groups and businesses were involved Illinois Retail Merchants, Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, which especially assists lower wage earners.
 - iv. **Deal Closing Fund - SB 2951**, creates a \$400 million closing fund to incentive electric vehicle and other manufacturing companies to locate in Illinois, similar to incentives available in Michigan, Ohio and Texas.
 - v. **Clean Energy Protection - HB 4412**, takes various actions to support the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA), including preventing counties from preemptively banning local wind and solar projects.
- b. New and returning members of the **103rd General Assembly were sworn in on January 11th**.
 - c. New adjournment date of May 19, 2023. Previous adjournment dates were May 31st.

III. LEGISLATIVE MONITORING

- a. Enacted in 2022 -102nd General Assembly
 - i. **HB 4646, now Public Act 102- 0943** requires that trustees of the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund be given at least 20 days of paid leave from their employer for the purpose of attending meetings of the Board of Trustees.
 - ii. **HB 4163, now Public Act 102- 0922** provides that money in the Illinois Police Association Fund should be used to provide benefits for the families of members of the Illinois Police Association dying of natural causes.
 - iii. **HB 5447, now Public Act 102-0811** allows a spouse of a downstate police officer to receive survivor benefits if he or she was married to the officer for at least 5 years prior to their death.
 - iv. **SB 3120, now Public Act 102-1-50** allows women who have a miscarriage, or other diagnosis or even that impacts pregnancy or fertility, or death of a family members to take 10 days of unpaid leave.
 - v. **SB 3127, now Public Act 102-1006** formally recognizes emergency medical dispatchers as first responders.

IV. NEW BILLS OF INTEREST UNDER 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- a. **HB 1052 (Hoffman)** – amends the Downstate Firefighter Article of the Illinois Pension Code. Makes benefit changes to Tier 2 firefighters. In a provision that reduces the amount of a pension for a Tier 2 firefighter who retires with at least 10 years of creditable service before attaining age 55, provides that the pension of a Tier 2 firefighter who is retiring after attaining age 50 with 20 or more years of creditable service shall not be reduced.
- b. **HB 1185 (Vella)** – amends the Downstate Police and Downstate Firefighter Articles of the Illinois Pension Code. Provides that the annual employer contribution shall include an amount sufficient to bring the total assets of the pension fund up to 90% of the total actuarial liabilities of the pension fund by the end of municipal fiscal year 2050 (instead of 2040).
- c. **HB 1248 (Reick)** – amends the Firefighters’ Pension Investment Fund Article of the Illinois Pension Code. Provides that the candidate receiving the highest number of votes who is from a fire protection district shall be elected if the candidate or candidates who are mayors, presidents, chief executive officers, chief financial officer, or other officers, executives, or department heads of municipalities or fire protection districts receiving the highest number of votes would result in there being no trustee who is from a fire protection district.
- d. **HB 1277 (Elik)** – amends the General Provisions of the Illinois Pension Code. Provides that benefit or annuity payments to a member of participant in a retirement system or pension fund shall be suspended if the member or participant is indicted or charged by information with a felony and the board of the retirement system or pension fund determines that the felony relates to or arises out of or in connection with his or her service as a member or participant of the retirement system or pension fund.

V. PENSION COMMITTEE CHANGES

- a. Former House Personnel and Pensions Chairman, Rep. Mike Halpin has joined the Senate.
 - i. New Chairwoman is Rep. Stephanie Kifowit
- b. Per Senate Resolution 8, the Senate Pensions Committee appears to be going through significant changes.

VI. PREVIOUS IPOPIF POSITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- a. **HB 308 (Rep. Maurice West)**
 - i. First filed January 27, 2021
 - ii. Provides that the annual employer contribution shall include an amount sufficient to bring the total assets of the pension fund up to

90% of the total actuarial liabilities of pension fund by the end of municipal fiscal year 2050 (instead of 2040).

- b. UPDATED on 3/11/2022 – HB 308 received a 15-17 minute subject matter hearing in the House Personnel and Pensions Committee on February 17, 2022
 - i. The Illinois Police Officer’s Pension Investment Fund was listed as ‘No Position’ back on March 26, 2021.
 - 1. That position has not changed.
 - ii. IPOPIF was not asked to provide testimony by staff or the Chairperson of the House Personnel and Pensions Committee.
 - iii. Stakeholders, i.e. IML promoting HB 308 did not ask for IPOPIF to be included in the discussion or provide testimony.
 - iv. HB 308 was not voted on and has been re-referred back to the House Rules Committee. This is the second time the bill has been assigned to the Pensions Committee and failed to receive a hearing where it can be voted on.

BOARD RECOMMENDATION – Maintain Neutrality, but work collaboratively w/Sponsor if there is room to amend the proposal.

- c. **HB 2523** Policemen’s Investment Board (**Rep. Stephanie Kifowit**)
 - i. Amends the Police Officers’ Pension Investment Fund Article of the Illinois Pension Code. In a provision concerning the transition board and permanent board of trustees, removes language specifying that provisions of the Lobbyist Registration Act that prohibit persons required to register under the Act from serving on boards or commissions do not apply to members who are representatives of the Illinois Municipal League. Changes effective date to January 1, 2022.
 - 1. HF#2 adopted in committee 8-0 on 4/21/2021
 - 2. Passed House 116-0 on April 22, 2021
 - a. IPOPIF – position was neutral the day of the pension committee. However the Board **later** voted to support the legislation in May.

BOARD RECOMMENDATION – Support this effort to be consistent with over 350 stakeholders who filed as proponents and 39 House co-sponsors.