

Week 8 Update

The Legislature is completed the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth legislative days this week.

The House Ways and Means Education Committee gave a favorable report to the Education Trust Fund budget, fully funding the TRS and PEEHIP at the requested rates. Additionally, the committee passed out SB30, which provides a \$2 per month of service bonus to TRS retirees. The budget and retiree bonus bill are on the House Special Order Calendar for Tuesday, March 8.

The House passed HB308 by Rep. Ingram, which modifies ERS Tier II by allowing 30-year retirement, providing hazardous duty time for FLC members, and increasing the regular Tier II member contribution rate to 6.5% and the FLC Tier II member contribution rate to 7.5%. This bill now moves to the Senate for consideration. The Senate Finance and Taxation General Fund Committee has previously given a favorable report to the companion bill to HB308.

Additionally, the House passed HB346, which removed the deadline for local units to make the election to provide Tier I benefits to their Tier II employees.

The Senate Finance and Taxation General Fund Committee considered SB188, which overhauls the RSA return to work restrictions. Due to concerns regarding the significant changes made by the bill, the committee voted to carry the bill over for further consideration.