

Week 9 Update

The Legislature convened for the twenty-second and twenty-third legislative days of the Regular Session this week.

This week, the House passed the Education Trust Fund budget, which fully funds TRS and PEEHIP at the requested rates, and the budget-related bills, including a 2% pay raise for education employees.

The Senate gave final passage to HB71, by Rep. Clouse, which provides hazardous duty time to emergency medical services personnel employed by local governments. The bill now goes to the Governor for her signature.

One new RSA bill was filed, HB472, by Rep. Pringle, which would provide Tier I retirement benefits to Tier II attorneys and investigators employed by district attorneys.

Additionally, a joint resolution was filed and passed in the Senate to create “the State Employee and Education Employee Health Insurance Joint Interim Study Commission.” The stated purpose of the commission is to determine if the benefits of PEEHIP and SEIB are competitive with surrounding states and private industry and to determine if any cost-savings could be. The 13-member commission includes representatives from PEEHIP and SEIB. The commission is tasked with meeting to examine and review benefits and consolidation and to report to the Legislature with its findings on or before January 1, 2025. The resolution now goes to the House for consideration.