

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICE
2025-2026 (194th) BILL SUMMARY

Bill Number: H.2892

Title: *An Act relative to the Massachusetts state employee retirement system*

Sponsor(s): Rep. David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf (*Worcester*)

Hearing Date: July 9, 2025

Reporting Deadline: September 7, 2025

Prior History:

New File

Similar Matters: H.42 (Office of the State Treasurer – Identical)

CURRENT LAW:

M.G.L. c. 32 § 3 – Membership: Outlines the different kinds of membership in the retirement systems, membership eligibility, group classifications, various scenarios regarding leave of absences and credit for different teaching jobs, and reestablishing membership.

M.G.L. c. 32 § 5 – Superannuation retirement: Outlines the conditions for retirement allowance, the formulas to calculate the allowance, and other general provisions pertaining to retirement allowances. Subsection two details how the amount of retirement allowance is calculated.

M.G.L. c. 32 § 22 – Methods of financing: Each retirement system has an annuity savings fund, an annuity reserve fund, and a pension fund. This section dictates how each of these is funded, any exceptions to the funding plan, and their general management.

M.G.L. c. 32 § 26 – Retirement of officers in department of state police: This section contains the process of state police to receive accidental disability benefits and how they are calculated and how the officer could be reinstated, and sets the mandatory retirement age for group three at 65yrs, however if a member of group three has worked with the state police for 20 or more years they may retire at 55yrs.

M.G.L. c. 32A § 8 – Contributions for premiums by commonwealth and active or retired employees and dependents; ratio; withholding; direct payment; reimbursement by certain agencies; filing copies of contracts and agreements

SUMMARY:

This bill amends section 3 of chapter 32 by updating the language that outlines who qualifies as a group two member to more modern language describing individuals with disabilities and children in custody.

This bill amends section 5 of chapter 32 by adding that if a member has prior service in multiple groups, the group classification of the prior service will be decided by the retirement board from which the member is retiring for the purposes of calculating their retirement allowance. This section is further amended by stating that members who entered service on or before April 2, 2012 and seeks group 2 or 4 classification and is not a public employee at the time of retirement will be classified based on the last position they worked. If they served in more than one group may elect to receive a pro-rated benefit based on the percentage of total years served in each group.

This bill amends subdivision 6 of section 22 of chapter 32 by defining “regular interest” to mean interest credited at a rate established by the commission, equal to the most recent Consumer Price Index for New England and taken to the nearest tenth of one percent to not exceed two percent.

This bill amends subsection 4 of section 26 of chapter 32 by adding to subparagraph (c). Any member who has attained the age of 55 and accrued at least 20 years working in the state police department and has served in more than one group may elect to receive a benefit consisting of pro-rated benefits based on the percentage of total years served in each group. However, this cannot exceed 75 percent of such compensation. For those who have not attained the age of 55 and has not worked with the state police for 20 years and has served in more than one group may elect to receive pro-rated based on a percentage of years served in each group. For the purposes of this calculation any service with the state police will be classified as group 4. For members in this situation who became members on or after April 2, 2021, will be a percentage of total years of service in each group.

This bill amends section 8 of chapter 32A by adding to the fourth paragraph that all amounts withheld under the provisions of section 19 and section 19A of chapter 32 from pensions or retirement allowances issued the month of the death of any retiree, survivor, or beneficiary will be forwarded to the commission by the state retirement board.