

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

Bill Number: H.3963

Title: *An Act relative to the retirement of Greg Heath, a former firefighter of the city of Westfield*

Sponsor(s): Rep. Kelly W. Pease (*Westfield*)

Hearing Date: May 7, 2025

Reporting Deadline: July 7, 2025

Prior History:

2023-24 (S.2369): Reported favorably; Placed in Orders of the Day; Read second and ordered to third reading; Senate engrossed; Referred to House Steering; Place in Orders of the Day; Read second and ordered to third reading

Similar Matters: S.1919 (Velis)

SUMMARY:

This bill directs the Westfield retirement board to retire Greg Heath under section 7 of chapter 32 based on any impairment of health caused by Parkinson's disease that has been determined as incurred as a result of his job. The retirement allowance payments will not begin until he has been examined by a medical panel as detailed in section 6 of chapter 32. However, the public employee retirement administration may waive this examination if he has been previously examined by a medical panel and is receiving benefits as of the effective date of this bill and must promptly alert the retirement board if this is the case. This bill will be effective as of September 26, 2020.