2017 Session

Budget Bill - SB900 (Introduced)

Bill Order » Independent Agencies » Item 489

Virginia Retirement System

Item 489	First Year - FY2017	Second Year - FY2018
Personnel Management Services (70400)	~~$13,338,829~~ ***$16,911,431***	~~$13,381,244~~ ***$17,290,398***
Administration of Retirement and Insurance Programs (70415)	~~$13,338,829~~ *$16,911,431*	~~$13,381,244~~ *$17,290,398*
Fund Sources:		
General	$32,585	$50,000
Trust and Agency	~~$13,306,244~~ *$16,878,846*	~~$13,331,244~~ *$17,240,398*

Authority: *Title 9.1, Chapter 4;* Title 51.1, Chapters 1, 2, 2.1, and 3, Code of Virginia.

A. The Board of Trustees of the Virginia Retirement System is hereby authorized to charge a participation fee to each employer served by the Virginia Retirement System for any services provided pursuant to Title 51.1, Code of Virginia. The fee shall be utilized to pay the administrative expenses of all administrative services, including non-retirement programs. Retirement contributions required by the board shall be reduced to pay such fees in a manner prescribed by the Board of Trustees.

B. State agencies and institutions of higher education shall make payments to the Virginia Retirement System (VRS) for VRS-administered benefits no less often than monthly.

C. The Virginia Retirement System shall make changes to administrative policies, procedures, and systems as necessary for implementation of the public employee retirement reforms provided in Chapter 701 of the Acts of Assembly of 2012.

D.1. Out of this appropriation, $32,585 the first year and $50,000 the second year from the general fund is provided for expenses associated with the Volunteer Firefighters' and Rescue Squad Workers' Service Award Fund.

2. Gains forfeited prior to July 1, 2016 pursuant to § 51.1-1206, Code of Virginia, and the accumulated earnings thereon shall be used to provide the reimbursement described in § 51.1-1200, Code of Virginia. All future gains forfeited pursuant to § 51.1-1206, Code of Virginia, shall also be used to provide the reimbursement described in § 51.1-1200, Code of Virginia.

E. The Board of Trustees of the Virginia Retirement System shall provide notification to the Chairmen of the House Appropriations Committee and Senate Finance Committee when a political subdivision becomes more than 60 days in arrears in their contributions to the Virginia Retirement System. Such notification shall occur within 15 days of when the 60 day period has occurred.

F.1. Pursuant to the administration of Chapter 4 of Title 9.1, Code of Virginia, the following provisions are effective July 1, 2017:

2. For purposes of this Item, employer contributions for coverage provided to members of the National Guard and Virginia Defense Force on active duty shall be paid by the Department of Military Affairs.

3. For purposes of establishing employer contributions, a member of any fire company or department or rescue squad that has been recognized by an ordinance or a resolution of the governing body of any county, city, or town of the Commonwealth as an integral part of the official safety program of such county, city, or town shall be considered part of the city, county, or town served by the company, department or rescue squad. If a company, department, or rescue squad serves more than one city, county, or town, the affected cities, counties, or towns shall determine the basis and apportionment of the required covered payroll and contributions for each local department, company, or rescue squad.

4. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the purposes of Chapter 4 of Title 9.1, Code of Virginia, the term "nonparticipating employer" means any employer that is a political subdivision of the Commonwealth that elected on or before July 1, 2012, or the RSW Regional Jail Authority that elected on or before July 1, 2016, to directly fund the cost of benefits provided under this chapter and not participate in the Fund.

5. The Virginia Retirement System Medical Board established pursuant to § 51.1-124.23, Code of Virginia, shall make a written report of its conclusions and recommendations on matters referred to it regarding eligibility for benefits under the Line of Duty Act.

6. In addition to any other benefit provided by law, an additional death benefit in the amount of $20,000 for the surviving spouses and dependents of certain members of the National Guard and United States military reserves killed in action in any armed conflict on or after October 7, 2001, are payable pursuant to § 44-93.1.B., Code of Virginia, from the Line of Duty Death and Health Benefits Trust Fund. The Virginia Retirement System, with support from the Department of Military Affairs, shall determine eligibility for this benefit.

7. For any surviving spouse of a "deceased person" or any "disabled person" as those terms are defined in § 9.1-400, who is receiving the benefits described in § 9.1-401 and who would otherwise qualify for the health insurance credit described in Chapter 14 of Title 51.1, Code of Virginia, the amount of such credit shall be deposited into the Line of Duty Death and Health Benefits Trust Fund or paid to the nonparticipating employer, as applicable, from the health insurance credit trust fund, in a manner prescribed by the Board of Trustees of the Virginia Retirement System.

8. A member of any fire company providing fire protection services for facilities of the Virginia National Guard or the Virginia Air National Guard shall be eligible to receive benefits according to the provisions under the Line of Duty Act, Title 9.1, Chapter 4, Code of Virginia. Funding for the inclusion of a member of any fire company providing fire protection services for facilities of the Virginia National Guard or the Virginia Air National Guard will be paid by the Department of Military Affairs out of its appropriation in Item 419 of this act.

9. Any locality that has established a trust, trusts, or equivalent arrangements for the purpose of accumulating and investing assets to fund post-employment benefits other than pensions under § 15.2-1544, Code of Virginia, may fund Line of Duty Act benefits from the assets of the trust, trusts, or equivalent arrangements.