

PENSION IMPACT NOTE

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Prepared by the
Illinois Pension Laws Commission

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BILL NO: HB 3303 **STATUS:** As Introduced

SPONSOR(S): Millner

SYSTEM(S): State Employees' Retirement System

DATE: March 26, 2003

Commission Recommendation: Pending

Date:

SYNOPSIS: HB 3303 amends the State Employees' Articles of the Pension Code to provide the alternative (State Police) formula for certain forensic employees of the Department of State Police.

FISCAL IMPACT: According to the System's actuary, HB 3303 would increase the accrued liability of the System by about \$12.2 million. The increase in annual cost has not been calculated but is expected to be minor. Fewer than 300 people would be affected.

DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS: Currently, forensic employees of the Department of State Police receive benefits based on the regular SERS formula of 1.67% of final average salary per year of service. HB 3303 would place certain full-time forensic positions in the alternative formula, increasing their retirement benefits to 2.2% of final average salary. These positions include forensic scientist, polygraph examiner, evidence technician, and public service administrator.

The Principles of Pension Policy state that new groups should be added to the alternative formula only if an Attorney General's opinion has been received indicating that the group has full policy powers and is exempt from Social Security. Forensic employees do not have full police powers and are not exempt from Social Security.

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