

**104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY****State of Illinois****2025 and 2026****HB1648**

Introduced 1/28/2025, by Rep. Brad Stephens

**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

40 ILCS 5/4-135

from Ch. 108 1/2, par. 4-135

Amends the Downstate Firefighter Article of the Illinois Pension Code. Provides that a pensioner, annuitant, applicant for a refund, disability beneficiary, or other beneficiary does not have the right to transfer or assign his or her pension, annuity, refund, or disability benefit, or any part thereof, by mortgage or otherwise; except that an annuitant or disability beneficiary may direct, in writing, that a monthly payment be made to an association or organization with which the annuitant or disability beneficiary or the annuitant's or disability beneficiary's surviving spouse may be affiliated by virtue of his or her fire service or for hospitalization insurance purposes.

LRB104 07389 RPS 17430 b

1           AN ACT concerning public employee benefits.

2           **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3           **represented in the General Assembly:**

4           Section 5. The Illinois Pension Code is amended by  
5           changing Section 4-135 as follows:

6           (40 ILCS 5/4-135) (from Ch. 108 1/2, par. 4-135)

7           Sec. 4-135. Benefits; exempt Benefits ~~Exempt~~. No portion  
8           of the pension fund shall, either before or after a board's  
9           order of distribution to any retired firefighter or his or her  
10           beneficiaries, be held, seized, taken subject to, or detained  
11           or levied on by virtue of any process, injunction  
12           interlocutory or other order or judgment, or any process or  
13           proceeding whatever issued by any court of this State, for the  
14           payment or satisfaction in whole or in part of any debt,  
15           damages, claim, demand or judgment against any firefighter or  
16           his or her beneficiaries, but the fund shall be held, secured  
17           and distributed for the purposes of pensioning such  
18           firefighter and beneficiaries and for no other purposes  
19           whatever.

20           A pensioner, annuitant, applicant for a refund, disability  
21           beneficiary, or other beneficiary does not have the right to  
22           transfer or assign his or her pension, annuity, refund, or  
23           disability benefit, or any part thereof, by mortgage or

otherwise; except that an annuitant or disability beneficiary may direct, in writing, that a monthly payment be made to an association or organization with which the annuitant or disability beneficiary or the annuitant's or disability beneficiary's surviving spouse may be affiliated by virtue of his or her fire service or for hospitalization insurance purposes.

(Source: P.A. 83-1440.)