2013 Legislative Session

April 2013

The complete Bill Draft Request (BDR) list for the 2013 Legislative Session is now available on the Legislature's web site (www.leg.state.nv.us). The BDRs listed below are being tracked by PERS’ staff for potential impact to the Retirement System. Currently, there is no additional language available for these BDRs. Once the BDR is introduced as a bill and the language is available, the Retirement Board will determine their position on the bill which staff will then post. This list will be updated on a monthly basis during the session. One new bill has been added and updates on the other bills has been provided in blue ink on the tracking list below since the last report.

BDR #646 – Assemblyman Kirner – Makes various changes relating to the Public Employees’ Retirement System.

Assembly Bills:

AB 31 (BDR #211) – Requested by the Attorney General – Revises provisions related to public records. Assembly Bill 31 was prefiled and read for the first time on February 4th. The bill was referred to the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. The committee heard the bill on February 7, 2013 and took no action. An amendment was offered by the Attorney General’s Chief of Staff at the committee meeting to include PERS and JRS confidentiality statutes in the list included in the bill as they were omitted by mistake. At the Retirement Board’s February 20th meeting, the Retirement Board adopted a neutral position on the bill as amended to include NRS 1A.110 and NRS 286.110(3). During the work session on March 29, 2013, the bill sponsor’s amendment was adopted and the Committee amended and do passed the bill as amended. The bill received a notice of eligibility for exemption on April 5, 2013. On April 15, 2013, the bill was read a second time and amended with Amendment #202. It was then re-referred to the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means upon reprint.

AB 237 (BDR #624) – Assemblyman Kirner – Adjusts the salaries of certain members of state boards and commissions. This bill was introduced and read for the first time on March 11th and referred to Concurrent Committees of the Assembly on Government Affairs and Ways and Means. The bill was heard on March 18th by the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. No action was taken. At their March 20th meeting, the Retirement Board adopted a neutral position on this bill. On April 5th the bill was placed on the Work Session for the Committee on Government Affairs where it was re-referred to the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means without recommendation. The bill was declared exempt on April 5th, 2013.
AB 342 (BDR #193) – Assemblyman Kirner – Revises provisions governing the Public Employees’ Retirement System. This bill creates a hybrid retirement plan consisting of part defined benefit and part defined contribution for new employees hired by certain public employers on or after July 1, 2014. The bill was introduced and read for the first time on March 11th and referred to the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means. At their March 20th meeting, the Retirement Board adopted a position in opposition to this bill. On April 5th the bill was declared exempt.

AB 364 (BDR #364) – Assemblymen Paul Anderson, Hansen, Duncan, Ellison, Grady, Hardy, Kirner, Oscarson and Wheeler – Revises provisions governing public officers and employees. Allows for a select group of individuals to purchase additional service credit of up to 11 additional days. The bill was introduced and read for the first time on March 18th and referred to the Assembly Committee on Government Affairs. At their March 20th meeting, the Retirement Board adopted a position in opposition to Assembly 364 as this bill provides a benefit enhancement to a select group of individuals and the Board’s Funding Policy does not allow them to support any benefit enhancements until the System is 85% funded. AB 364 was heard on March 26, 2013, which at that time the bill’s sponsor offered an amendment removing Section 2 of the bill which contained the language for the additional purchase of service provisions. There was no action taken on the bill. AB 364 was scheduled for the Committee’s work session on April 5th. The Committee amended the bill and do passed the bill as amended which removed Section 2 completely from the bill. The Committee then re-referred the bill to the Committee on Ways and Means. The bill received a notice of eligibility for exemption on April 5th. At their April 17th meeting, the Retirement Board adopted a neutral position on AB 364 as amended by Amendment #183 which removes Section 2 from the bill.

Senate Bills:

SB 74 (BDR #603) – Requested by the Senate Committee on Government Affairs – Revises provisions related to public records. This bill was introduced and read for the first time on February 4th. The bill was referred to the Committee on Government Affairs. The bill was heard on February 20th and no action was taken. At the Retirement Board’s February 20th meeting, the Retirement Board adopted a neutral position on Senate Bill 74. During the Committee’s work session on April 10, 2013, the Committee amended and do passed the bill as amended. On April 17th the bill was read for the second time and amended by Amendment #255 and sent to the printer for re-print.

SB 201(BDR #559) – Requested by Senator Segerblom – Revises provisions governing the employment of retired public employees. This bill was introduced and read for the first time on February 28th and referred to the Senate Committee
on Government Affairs. The bill was heard on March 13th and no action was taken. At the Retirement Board’s March 20th meeting, the Retirement Board adopted a position in opposition to Senate Bill 201 as this bill provides a benefit enhancement and the Board’s Funding Policy does not allow them to support any benefit enhancements until the System is 85% funded. During work session on April 10, 2013, the Committee amended, and do passed the bill as amended.

**SB 463 – BDR #1-1197 – Senate Committee on Finance – Provides for the implementation of the Court of Appeals. This bill was referred to the Committee on Judiciary. SB 463 was heard on March 29, 2013 with the action of amend and do pass as amended. The bill received notice of eligibility for exemption on April 4, 2013. At their April 17th Retirement Board meeting, the Retirement Board adopted a neutral position on Senate Bill 463.**

Anyone who wishes to comment on any of these bills is welcome to go to the Legislature’s website (www.leg.state.nv.us) and click on “Share Your Opinion on Legislative Bills”, located on the right hand column of their home page.