

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
77R12598 KSD-F

H.B. 3603
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Intergovernmental Relations
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Engrossed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, municipalities covered by the provisions for municipal civil service are required to provide line of duty illness or injury leave to a police officer or firefighter with full pay for up to one year. After the one year period, the municipality's governing body may extend the leave at full or reduced pay. If a firefighter's or police officer's salary is reduced below 60 percent of the person's regular monthly salary and the municipality has a firefighter or police officer's pension fund, the person may retire on pension until able to return to work. It may be unclear whether police officers and firefighters who are members of different pension funds are covered by the provision. H.B. 3603 clarifies that police officers and firefighters in civil service municipalities are covered by the provisions for retirement on pension regardless of the type of pension fund in which they are a member.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 143.073(b), Local Government Code, to authorize a fire fighter or police officer, if the person's leave is not extended or the person's salary is reduced below 60 percent of the person's regular monthly salary, and the person is a member of a pension fund, to retire on pension until able to return to duty. Deletes text regarding a municipality having a fire fighter's or police officer's pension fund.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 143.074, Local Government Code, to provide that with the approval of the Fire Fighters' and Police Officers' Civil Service Commission (commission) if otherwise qualified, a fire fighter or police officer who has been certified by a physician selected by a pension fund as having recovered from a disability for which the person has been receiving a monthly disability pension is eligible for reappointment to the classified position that the person held on the date the person qualified for the monthly disability pension. Deletes text regarding fire fighter's or police officer's relief or retirement fund.

SECTION 3. (a) Effective date: September 1, 2001.

(b) Makes application of Section 143.073(b), Local Government Code, prospective.