

2015 Legislation Impacting LASERS/Retirement/OGB Final Outcomes:

HB 33 – Berthelot (Support) Final Outcome: Passed Became Act 368

Increases littering fines (by 50%) and distributes the increase in fines to the retirement system of the law enforcement agency issuing the litter citation. The funds shall be applied to the oldest outstanding positive amortization base of the system.

HB 42 – Sam Jones (Support) Final Outcome: Vetoed by Gov. Jindal

Authorizes a COLA of up to 1.5% (based on the amount of funds available in the Experience Account) for LASERS retirees and beneficiaries effective July 1, 2015.

HB 45 – Pearson (Support) Final Outcome: Failed to Pass

Relative to implementation of new age sixty-two retirement eligibility for new hires effective July 1, 2015. Provides that system membership is “optional” for persons age 62 or older after July 1, 2015.

HB 46 – Reynolds (Support) Final Outcome: Passed Became Act 44

Provides relative to benefits for minor children of certain wildlife agents in the enforcement division of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries; changes all of the references to children under the age of 18, and will instead refer to minor children. Minors will include unmarried full-time students under the age of 23.

HB 55 – Ritchie and SB 15 – Nevers (Support) Final Outcome: Failed to Pass

Constitutional Amendment - Levies a 4% tax on the use of hydrocarbon processing facilities and dedicates a portion of the tax proceeds to payment of the IUAL of LASERS and TRSL (\$250 Million per year allocated proportionally based on the UAL of each system).

HB 83 – Patrick Jefferson (Support) Final Outcome: Failed to Pass

Provides for continuance of nutrition assistance for retirees who are at least 80 years of age and whose SNAP benefits are reduced or eliminated due to income gained from a cost-of-living adjustment in retirement income.

HB 370- Broadwater/Edwards/Shadoin (Support) Final Outcome: Vetoed by Gov. Jindal

Establishes Group Benefits Actuarial Committee and requires an annual actuarial study on the premium rate structure and approval by the panel of recommended changes to the premium rates charged for members of the Office of Group Benefits (OGB).

SB 14 – Guillory (Neutral) Final Outcome: Failed to Pass

Includes noninvestment related administrative expenses in calculating the required employer contribution rate.

SB 16 – Guillory (Support) Final Outcome: Failed to Pass

Clarifies provisions regarding excess investment earnings, employer contributions and COLAs.

SB 18 – Adley *(Substitute Bill SB 285) (Oppose) Final Outcome: Failed to Pass

Provides for withdrawal of higher education systems from **TRSL** & establishment of new retirement plan(s). Systems may pay their share of liability by pension obligation bonds.

SB 260 – Broome/Claitor (Neutral) Final Outcome: Passed Became Act 146

Provides for the organization of the Office of Group Benefits (OGB). Provides for the creation of the OGB Estimating Conference and provides for the duties and principals of the OGB Estimating Conference.

HCR 57-Montoucet / HCR 71-Fannin / SCR 2-Adley(Oppose) Final Outcome: Failed to Pass

Suspends the exemption from paying state income tax on public pension benefits for one year.