

FINAL BILL REPORT

SB 5987

C 135 L 99

Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Withdrawing accumulated contributions under the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system.

Sponsors: Senators Goings, Benton, Bauer, Hochstatter, Costa, Gardner and Rasmussen.

Senate Committee on Ways & Means

House Committee on Appropriations

Background: Members of the Law Enforcement Officers and Fire Fighters' Retirement System, Plan 2 (LEOFF 2) who become totally incapacitated for continued employment are eligible to receive a disability retirement allowance. The allowance is canceled if the member recovers from the disability and is no longer entitled to workers' compensation benefits. The statute also provides that a member who has recovered from a disability shall be restored to duty.

LEOFF 2 members are entitled to a refund of their accumulated member contributions if they cease to be employees of a LEOFF employer, except by service or disability retirement. A LEOFF 2 member who leaves employment due to a disability retirement, but is not re-employed upon recovery from the disability, is not able to receive a refund of the difference between the disability payments received and the member's total accumulated contributions.

Summary: If the disability retirement allowance of a LEOFF 2 member is canceled for any reason other than the member's re-entry into employment or retirement from service, the member must be paid the excess, if any, of the member's accumulated contributions over all previous LEOFF 2 payments. The act applies to any LEOFF 2 member who received a disability allowance after February 1, 1990.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	46	0
House	93	0

Effective: July 25, 1999