FINAL BILL REPORT SB 6218

C 97 L 20

Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Modifying the definition of salary for the Washington state patrol retirement system.

Sponsors: Senators Schoesler and Conway; by request of Select Committee on Pension Policy.

Senate Committee on Ways & Means Senate Committee on Transportation House Committee on Appropriations House Committee on Transportation

Background: The Washington State Patrol Retirement System (WSPRS) was created in 1947 and covers all commissioned officers of the Washington State Patrol (WSP). In 2001, ESB 5143 was enacted, closing WSPRS Plan 1 as of December 31, 2002, and creating a Plan 2, covering fully commissioned officers entering the system on or after January 1, 2003.

In addition to creating Plan 2, ESB 5143 modified the definition of salary for calculating pension benefits for all WSPRS members. Under the new definition, the salary for members enrolled in WSPRS on or after July 1, 2001, excluded the lump sum payments for holiday pay, unused sick, vacation and annual leave, or any form of severance. The salary for WSPRS members enrolled prior to July 1, 2001, still included the lump sum payments in calculating pension benefits.

Summary: The definition of salary for calculating pension benefits for WSPRS Plan 1 members that entered the system on or after July 1, 2001, is changed to allow for including lump sum payments for holiday pay and unused vacation and annual leave.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate 48 0 House 97 0

Effective: June 11, 2020

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