THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE





May 5, 2011

The Honorable Mike Haridopolos President of the Senate

The Honorable Dean Cannon Speaker, House of Representatives

Dear Mr. President and Mr. Speaker:

Your Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes of the two houses on SB 2100, 2nd Eng., same being:

An act relating to retirement.

having met, and after full and free conference, do recommend to their respective houses as follows:

- 1. That the House of Representatives recede from its Amendment 1.
- 2. That the Senate and House of Representatives adopt the Conference Committee Amendment attached hereto, and by reference made a part of this report.

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The Conference Committee Amendment for SB 2100, 2nd Eng., relating to retirement, provides for the following:

- Effective July 1, 2011, requires 3% employee contribution for all FRS members. DROP participants are not required to pay employee contributions.
- For employees initially enrolled on or after July 1, 2011, the definition of "average final compensation" means the average of the 8 highest fiscal years of compensation for creditable service prior to retirement, for purposes of calculation of retirement benefits. For employees initially enrolled prior to July 1, 2011, the definition of "average final compensation" continues to be the average of the 5 highest fiscal years of compensation.
- For employees initially enrolled in the pension plan on or after July 1, 2011, such members will vest in 100% of employer contributions upon completion of 8 years of creditable service. For existing employees, vesting will remain at 6 years of creditable service.
- For employees, initially enrolled on or after July 1, 2011, increases the normal retirement age and years of service requirements, as follows:
 - o For Special Risk Class: Increases the age from 55 to 60 years of age; and increases the years of creditable service from 25 to 30.
 - o For all other classes: Increases the age from 62 to 65 years of age; and increases the years of creditable service from 30 to 33 years.
- Maintains DROP; however, employees entering DROP on or after July 1, 2011 will earn interest at a reduced accrual rate of 1.3%. For employees currently in DROP or entering before July 1, 2011, the interest rate remains 6.5%.
- Eliminates the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for service earned on or after July 1, 2011. Subject to the availability of funding and the Legislature enacting sufficient employer contributions specifically for the purpose of funding the reinstatement of the COLA, the new COLA formula will expire effective June 30, 2016, and the current 3% cost-of-living adjustment will be reinstated.
- To implement the bill for the 2011-12 fiscal year, funds the Division of Retirement with four positions and \$207,070 in recurring funds and 31,184 in non-recurring funds.