SLS 20RS-835

ORIGINAL

2020 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 15

BY SENATOR PRICE

RETIREMENT BENEFITS. Urges and requests the state retirement systems to provide information to the legislature regarding permanent benefit increases for retirees.

1	A RESOLUTION		
2	To urge and request the state retirement systems to report to the legislature on alternative		
3	methods for providing permanent benefit increases to retirees.		
4	WHEREAS, the constitution of Louisiana, the solemn expression of the will of the		
5	people of this state, charges the legislature with the duty of providing for the retirement of		
6	employees of the state and of the public educational system; and		
7	WHEREAS, the legislature fulfilled this duty by establishing four state retirement		
8	systems: the Louisiana State Employees' Retirement System, the Teachers' Retirement		
9	System of Louisiana, the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement System, and the State		
10	Police Retirement System; and		
11	WHEREAS, the benefits that members of these systems earn currently include no		
12	mechanism that preserves the purchasing power of these earned retirement benefits; and		
13	WHEREAS, Louisiana has demonstrated its commitment to actuarially sound		
14	funding of these retirement systems and has taken meaningful steps to ensure the		
15	sustainability of the defined benefit plans that replace and do not supplement Social Security		
16	benefits; and		
17	WHEREAS, in furtherance of this commitment, the legislature has acted to increase		
18	the allocation of system assets toward decreasing debt, increasing funding, transitioning the		

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1	systems to more conservative assumptions, and reducing inter-generational cost shifting; and			
2	WHEREAS, as a result, less money accumulates in the special accounts designed to			
3	fund permanent benefit increases for eligible retirees and other beneficiaries of the systems			
4	lengthening the time between increases; and			
5	WHEREAS, the last permanent benefit increase, funded from the special accounts			
6	was effective July 1, 2016; and			
7	WHEREAS, retired teachers' and state employees' benefits were increased by only			
8	1.5% at that time and retired school employees and state troopers received a 2% increases			
9	and			
10	WHEREAS, recipients of Social Security benefits receive cost-of-living adjustments			
11	annually, based on the increase in the prices of goods; and			
12	WHEREAS, beneficiaries of these four state retirement systems receive no such			
13	cost-of-living adjustments, resulting in the erosion of their purchasing power over time.			
14	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of Louisiana does hereby urge			
15	and request the four state retirement systems, working together as appropriate, to study			
16	alternative mechanisms for providing meaningful benefit increases on a regularly scheduled			
17	basis, designed to preserve the purchasing power of the recipients.			
18	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of Louisiana urges and requests the			
19	state retirement systems to submit to the Senate no later than December 1, 2020, a single			
20	report of their findings.			
21	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the executive			
22	director of each of the four state retirement systems.			

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by LG Sullivan.

SR 15 Original	DIGEST 2020 Regular Session	Price			
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