
OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 6953

AN ACT REQUIRING MUNICIPALITIES TO PROVIDE A PENSION TO POLICE OFFICERS AND FIREFIGHTERS THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN THE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OR ANOTHER COMPARABLE PENSION SYSTEM.

SUMMARY

This bill requires each municipality, by June 30, 2027, to provide a defined pension plan (presumably, a defined benefit pension plan) for each police officer and firefighter it employs, either through participation in the Connecticut Municipal Employees Retirement System or another defined pension plan with comparable or superior benefits.

The bill correspondingly requires the comptroller to study the considerations needed for a municipality that does not currently meet that requirement to successfully transition its officers and firefighters into such a defined pension plan. The comptroller must report the study's results to the Labor and Public Employees Committee by January 1, 2026.

Under the bill, a "municipality" is a town, city or borough, consolidated town and city, or consolidated town and borough. Although undefined in the bill, a defined benefit pension plan generally gives an employee a guaranteed pension benefit, with the employer bearing the risk of ensuring the plan has enough funding to pay the benefits.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 9 Nay 4 (03/20/2025)