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Senate Bill 229

Actuarial Cost Study prepared for Joint Committee on Public Retirement and Social Security Programs of the Arkansas 92nd General Assembly

Provisions of the Bill

Senate Bill 229 affects the Arkansas Public Employees Retirement System (APERS). Senate Bill 229 provides explicit authority to public water authorities to elect APERS coverage. The bill also clarifies that a public water authority is allowed to become a participating employer in APERS and defines the appropriate terms.

Fiscal Impact

Public water authorities could elect to participate in APERS in the same fashion as cities and other governmental entities allowed under APERS law. These elections are established in such a way as to not provide an advantage or disadvantage to APERS. Therefore, it is our opinion that Senate Bill 229 would not create any fiscal impact on APERS.

Other

Since a public water authority is formed by agreement of other governmental entities (counties, cities, etc.) and they provide a public purpose, it would appear that a public water authority would be considered a governmental entity and can participate in a governmental plan under federal law. Please note that this should not be considered a legal opinion.

Sincerely,

Jody Carreiro, A.S.A, M.A.A.A.

Actuary