

SENATE RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE CHAIRMEN OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC RETIREMENT AND SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAMS TO APPOINT A SUB-COMMITTEE, AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL SHALL APPOINT MEMBERS TO ASSIST, AT THE REQUEST OF THE RETIREMENT COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN, TO STUDY THE ISSUE OF INCENTIVE PAY FOR STATE EMPLOYEES WHOSE JOBS MAY BE CONSIDERED AS HAZARDOUS DUTY.

WHEREAS, the Public Employees Retirement System non-contributory plan has a "public safety" classification which grants those defined as such 1.5 years of service credit for each year worked and the normal retirement age of 65 is reduced by 1 month for every 2 months of public safety service credit, thus enabling a person to retire with full benefits at a minimum age of 55 with 13 1/3 years of service; and

WHEREAS, the cost of this enhanced benefit is actuarially computed to be an additional 9 percent of payroll; and

WHEREAS, an increasing number of groups seek this "public safety" classification; and

WHEREAS, there has been expressed concern that there may be a more appropriate way to address compensation for those whose employment may be considered hazardous duty;

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE 76TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

That the Chairman of the Joint Interim Committee on Public Retirement and Social Security Programs shall appoint a subcommittee and the chairman of the Legislative Council shall appoint members to assist, at the request of the Retirement Committee Chairmen, to study the issue of incentive pay for State employees whose jobs may be considered as hazardous duty.