



Department of Audits and Accounts

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February 22, 2023

The Honorable Larry Walker, III
State Senator
State Capitol, Room 421-A
Atlanta, GA 30334

SUBJECT: State Auditor's Certification
Senate Bill (LC 43 2823)

Dear Senator Walker:

This bill would amend several provisions relating to the Sheriffs' Retirement Fund of Georgia (the Fund). The specific changes outlined in this bill are as follows.

- The cost for members wishing to purchase prior creditable service would increase from \$37.50 per month of creditable service purchased to \$65 per month.
- Dues paid by active members would increase from \$45 per month to \$65 per month. It should be noted that members are not required to pay dues once they earn 30 years of creditable service.
- This bill would increase the fees paid to the Fund for civil filings in superior courts, state courts, and magistrate courts. Currently, the Fund receives \$1 for each proceeding. This bill would increase the fees to \$5 for each proceeding.
- An additional revenue source would be available to the Fund. Under the provisions of this bill, the Fund would receive \$2 from each fee collected prior to adjudication of guilt for purposes of pretrial diversion pertaining to any criminal or quasi-criminal case for violation of state statutes, county ordinances, or municipal ordinances.
- The death benefit paid to survivors would increase from \$15,000 to \$35,000.
- This bill would prohibit the payment of retirement benefits to persons who become members on or after July 1, 2024, and convicted of a felony related to his or her employment.

This is to certify that this bill is a fiscal retirement bill as defined in the Public Retirement Systems Standards Law.

Respectfully,

s/ GREG S. GRIFFIN

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

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