

OR  
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**The Ohio Retirement Study Council**

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# *Analysis*

## **H.B. 222 - Rep. Van Vyven** (As Introduced)

**April 14, 1999**

## **ORSC Position**

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## **H.B. 222**

H.B. 222 would make the following changes:

- Change the name of the Police and Firemen's Disability and Pension Fund (PFDPF) to the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund.
- Change the name of the Firemen and Policemen's Death Benefit Fund to the Ohio Public Safety Officers Death Benefit Fund.
- Replace gender specific names with gender neutral names for the individual funds into which employee and employer contributions and interest are deposited that are held in trust by the PFDPF Board.
- Corrects references to the "Ohio Retirement Study Commission" in the Revised Code by changing the references to the "Ohio Retirement Study Council" as established by H.B. 670 (eff. 12-2-96).

### **Staff Comments**

PFDPF was created by the Ohio General Assembly in 1965 to provide disability and pension benefits to members of the fund, their surviving spouses, their children, and their dependent parents. It was created by consolidating 454 local police and firemen's relief and pension funds and became operational in 1967. PFDPF covers full-time municipal police officers and full-time firefighters employed by any public entity in Ohio.

The Firemen and Policemen's Death Benefit Fund was created by the Ohio General Assembly in 1976 to provide financial support for the families of Ohio's law enforcement and public safety personnel who die in the line of duty or from injuries sustained in the line of duty. It is funded by the state and administered by PFDPF.

These changes make the names of the funds gender neutral and more accurately reflect the membership of the funds. It is also consistent with the gender neutral names of the other four public retirement systems.

The bill makes no substantive changes to the laws governing either the Police and Firemen's Disability and Pension Fund or the Firemen and Policemen's Death Benefit Fund.

### **Fiscal Impact**

The bill would entail minimal additional administrative costs to the fund, but has no impact on the funding period.

### **ORSC Position**

At its meeting of April 14, 1999, the Ohio Retirement Study Council voted to recommend that the 123rd General Assembly approve H.B. 222.