94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2005 and 2006

HB1189

Introduced 2/8/2005, by Rep. Robert S. Molaro

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

40 ILCS 5	/3-110.3	from	Ch.	108	1/2,	par.	3-110.3
40 ILCS 5	/7-139	from	Ch.	108	1/2,	par.	7-139
30 ILCS 8	805/8.29 new						

Amends the Downstate Police and IMRF Articles of the Illinois Pension Code. Creates additional liability for former employers of police chiefs who elect to transfer service credits from downstate police pension funds to IMRF. Amends the State Mandates Act to require implementation without reimbursement. Effective immediately.

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FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY PENSION IMPACT NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES ACT MAY REQUIRE REIMBURSEMENT

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AN ACT concerning public employee benefits.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Illinois Pension Code is amended by changing
Sections 3-110.3 and 7-139 as follows:

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(40 ILCS 5/3-110.3) (from Ch. 108 1/2, par. 3-110.3) Sec. 3-110.3. Transfer to IMRF.

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(a) Any person who has made an election under Section 8 3-109.1, and until July 1, 1993, any active member of the 9 Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund who is a county clerk, may 10 apply for transfer of his creditable service accumulated in any 11 police pension fund under this Article to the Illinois 12 Municipal Retirement Fund. The creditable service shall be 13 14 transferred upon payment by the police pension fund to the 15 Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund of an amount equal to:

16 (1) the amounts accumulated to the credit of the 17 applicant on the books of the fund on the date of transfer; 18 and

(2) employer contributions in an amount equal to theamount determined under subparagraph (1); and

(3) any interest paid by the applicant in order to
 reinstate service.

23 Participation in this Fund shall terminate on the date of 24 transfer.

(b) Any person who has made an election under Section 3-109.1, and until July 1, 1993, any such county clerk, may reinstate service which was terminated by receipt of a refund, by payment to the police pension fund of the amount of the refund with interest thereon at the rate of 6% per year, compounded annually, from the date of refund to the date of payment.

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(c) With respect to any transfer made under this Section on

1 or after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th 2 General Assembly, the municipality that employed the person at the time of the service for which credit is being transferred: 3 (1) shall remain responsible for any costs arising from 4 5 the transfer of that service in excess of the amounts transferred under this Section and the amount, if any, paid 6 for that transfer by the person under subdivision (a)9 of 7 Section 7-139; and 8 9 (2) shall pay to the Board of Trustees of the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund such amounts as that Board of 10 Trustees shall, from time to time, determine to be 11 12 necessary to discharge that responsibility. (Source: P.A. 86-273; 87-1265.) 13 (40 ILCS 5/7-139) (from Ch. 108 1/2, par. 7-139) 14 15 Sec. 7-139. Credits and creditable service to employees. (a) Each participating employee shall be granted credits 16 and creditable service, for purposes of determining the amount 17 of any annuity or benefit to which he or a beneficiary is 18 19 entitled, as follows: 1. For prior service: Each participating employee who 20 employee of a participating municipality or 21 is an 22 participating instrumentality on the effective date shall be granted creditable service, but no credits under 23 paragraph 2 of this subsection (a), for periods of prior 24 service for which credit has not been received under any 25 26 other pension fund or retirement system established under 27 this Code, as follows: If the effective date of participation for 28 the 29 participating municipality or participating instrumentality is on or before January 1, 1998, creditable 30 31 service shall be granted for the entire period of prior 32 service with that employer without any employee contribution. 33

34If the effective date of participation for the35participating municipality or participating

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instrumentality is after January 1, 1998, creditable 1 2 service shall be granted for the last 20% of the period of 3 prior service with that employer, but no more than 5 years, contribution. 4 without employee A participating any 5 may establish creditable service employee for the 6 remainder of the period of prior service with that employer by making an application in writing, accompanied by payment 7 of an employee contribution in an amount determined by the 8 9 Fund, based on the employee contribution rates in effect at 10 the time of application for the creditable service and the 11 employee's salary rate on the effective date of participation for that employer, plus interest at the 12 effective rate from the date of the prior service to the 13 date of payment. Application for this creditable service 14 may be made at any time while the employee is still in 15 16 service.

17 A municipality that (i) has at least 35 employees; (ii) is located in a county with at least 2,000,000 inhabitants; 18 and (iii) maintains an independent defined benefit pension 19 20 plan for the benefit of its eligible employees may restrict creditable service in whole or in part for periods of prior 21 service with the employer if the governing body of the 22 municipality adopts an irrevocable resolution to restrict 23 that creditable service and files the resolution with the 24 board before the municipality's effective 25 date of 26 participation.

27 Any person who has withdrawn from the service of a 28 participating municipality or participating instrumentality prior to the effective date, who reenters 29 30 the service of the same municipality or participating 31 instrumentality after the effective date and becomes a 32 participating employee is entitled to creditable service for prior service as otherwise provided in this subdivision 33 (a)(1) only if he or she renders 2 years of service as a 34 effective 35 participating employee after the date. Application for such service must be made while in a 36

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participating status. The salary rate to be used in the calculation of the required employee contribution, if any, shall be the employee's salary rate at the time of first reentering service with the employer after the employer's effective date of participation.

2. For current service, each participating employee shall be credited with:

8 a. Additional credits of amounts equal to each 9 payment of additional contributions received from him 10 under Section 7-173, as of the date the corresponding 11 payment of earnings is payable to him.

b. Normal credits of amounts equal to each payment of normal contributions received from him, as of the date the corresponding payment of earnings is payable to him, and normal contributions made for the purpose of establishing out-of-state service credits as permitted under the conditions set forth in paragraph 6 of this subsection (a).

19 c. Municipality credits in an amount equal to 1.4 20 times the normal credits, except those established by 21 out-of-state service credits, as of the date of 22 computation of any benefit if these credits would 23 increase the benefit.

24 d. Survivor credits equal to each payment of 25 survivor contributions received from the participating 26 employee as of the date the corresponding payment of 27 earnings is payable, and survivor contributions made 28 for the purpose of establishing out-of-state service 29 credits.

30 3. For periods of temporary and total and permanent 31 disability benefits, each employee receiving disability 32 benefits shall be granted creditable service for the period 33 during which disability benefits are payable. Normal and 34 survivor credits, based upon the rate of earnings applied 35 for disability benefits, shall also be granted if such 36 credits would result in a higher benefit to any such - 5 -LRB094 04138 EFG 34159 b

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employee or his beneficiary.

2 4. For authorized leave of absence without pay: A 3 participating employee shall be granted credits and creditable service for periods of authorized leave of 4 5 absence without pay under the following conditions:

An application for credits and creditable a. service is submitted to the board while the employee is in a status of active employment, and within 2 years after termination of the leave of absence period for which credits and creditable service are sought.

11 b. Not more than 12 complete months of creditable 12 service for authorized leave of absence without pay 13 shall be counted for purposes of determining any benefits payable under this Article. 14

c. Credits and creditable service shall be granted 15 16 for leave of absence only if such leave is approved by 17 the governing body of the municipality, including of the estimated cost thereof to 18 approval the 19 municipality as determined by the fund, and employee 20 contributions, plus interest at the effective rate applicable for each year from the end of the period of 21 leave to date of payment, have been paid to the fund in 22 23 accordance with Section 7-173. The contributions shall be computed upon the assumption earnings continued 24 during the period of leave at the rate in effect when 25 26 the leave began.

27 d. Benefits under the provisions of Sections 28 7-141, 7-146, 7-150 and 7-163 shall become payable to 29 employees on authorized leave of absence, or their 30 designated beneficiary, only if such leave of absence 31 is creditable hereunder, and if the employee has at 32 least one year of creditable service other than the service granted for leave of absence. Any employee 33 34 contributions due may be deducted from any benefits 35 payable.

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e. No credits or creditable service shall be

1 2 allowed for leave of absence without pay during any period of prior service.

5. For military service: The governing body of a 3 municipality or participating instrumentality may elect to 4 5 allow creditable service to participating employees who 6 leave their employment to serve in the armed forces of the United States for all periods of such service, provided 7 that the person returns to active employment within 90 days 8 9 after completion of full time active duty, but no 10 creditable service shall be allowed such person for any 11 period that can be used in the computation of a pension or any other pay or benefit, other than pay for active duty, 12 for service in any branch of the armed forces of the United 13 States. If necessary to the computation of any benefit, the 14 15 board shall establish municipality credits for 16 participating employees under this paragraph on the 17 assumption that the employee received earnings at the rate received at the time he left the employment to enter the 18 armed forces. A participating employee in the armed forces 19 20 shall not be considered an employee during such period of service and no additional death and no disability benefits 21 are payable for death or disability during such period. 22

Any participating employee who left his employment 23 with a municipality or participating instrumentality to 24 serve in the armed forces of the United States and who 25 again became a participating employee within 90 days after 26 27 completion of full time active duty by entering the service 28 different municipality or participating of а instrumentality, which has elected to allow creditable 29 30 service for periods of military service under the preceding 31 paragraph, shall also be allowed creditable service for his 32 period of military service on the same terms that would apply if he had been employed, before entering military 33 service, by the municipality or instrumentality which 34 employed him after he left the military service and the 35 employer costs arising in relation to such grant of 36

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creditable service shall be charged to and paid by that municipality or instrumentality.

3 Notwithstanding foregoing, any participating the employee shall be entitled to creditable service as 4 5 required by any federal law relating to re-employment 6 rights of persons who served in the United States Armed Services. Such creditable service shall be granted upon 7 payment by the member of an amount equal to the employee 8 9 contributions which would have been required had the 10 employee continued in service at the same rate of earnings 11 during the military leave period, plus interest at the 12 effective rate.

5.1. In addition to any creditable service established
under paragraph 5 of this subsection (a), creditable
service may be granted for up to 24 months of service in
the armed forces of the United States.

17 In order to receive creditable service for military service under this paragraph 5.1, a participating employee 18 must (1) apply to the Fund in writing and provide evidence 19 20 of the military service that is satisfactory to the Board; (2) obtain the written approval of the current employer; 21 and (3) make contributions to the Fund equal to (i) the 22 employee contributions that would have been required had 23 the service been rendered as a member, plus (ii) an amount 24 25 determined by the board to be equal to the employer's normal cost of the benefits accrued for that military 26 27 service, plus (iii) interest on items (i) and (ii) from the 28 date of first membership in the Fund to the date of 29 payment. If payment is made during the 6-month period that 30 begins 3 months after the effective date of this amendatory 31 Act of 1997, the required interest shall be at the rate of 32 2.5% per year, compounded annually; otherwise, the required interest shall be calculated at the regular 33 interest rate. 34

35 6. For out-of-state service: Creditable service shall
 36 be granted for service rendered to an out-of-state local

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governmental body under the following conditions: The 1 2 employee had participated and has irrevocably forfeited 3 all rights to benefits in the out-of-state public employees pension system; the governing body of his participating 4 5 municipality or instrumentality authorizes the employee to establish such service; the employee has 2 years current 6 municipality or participating 7 service with this employee а 8 instrumentality; the makes payment of 9 contributions, which shall be computed at 8% (normal) plus 10 2% (survivor) times length of service purchased times the 11 average rate of earnings for the first 2 years of service with the municipality or participating instrumentality 12 whose governing body authorizes the service established 13 plus interest at the effective rate on the date such 14 credits are established, payable from the date the employee 15 16 completes the required 2 years of current service to date 17 of payment. In no case shall more than 120 months of creditable service be granted under this provision. 18

7. For retroactive service: Any employee who could have 19 20 but did not elect to become a participating employee, or who should have been a participant in the Municipal Public 21 Utilities Annuity and Benefit Fund before that fund was 22 23 superseded, may receive creditable service for the period of service not to exceed 50 months; however, a current or 24 25 former elected or appointed official of a participating municipality may establish credit under this paragraph 7 26 27 for more than 50 months of service as an official of that 28 municipality, if the excess over 50 months is approved by 29 resolution of the governing body of the affected 30 municipality filed with the Fund before January 1, 2002.

Any employee who is a participating employee on or after September 24, 1981 and who was excluded from participation by the age restrictions removed by Public Act 82-596 may receive creditable service for the period, on or after January 1, 1979, excluded by the age restriction and, in addition, if the governing body of the participating - 9 - LRB094 04138 EFG 34159 b

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1 municipality or participating instrumentality elects to 2 allow creditable service for all employees excluded by the age restriction prior to January 1, 1979, for service 3 during the period prior to that date excluded by the age 4 5 Any employee who excluded from restriction. was 6 participation by the age restriction removed by Public Act 82-596 and who is not a participating employee on or after 7 September 24, 1981 may receive creditable service for 8 service after January 1, 1979. Creditable service under 9 10 this paragraph shall be granted upon payment of the 11 employee contributions which would have been required had 12 he participated, with interest at the effective rate for each year from the end of the period of service established 13 to date of payment. 14

15 8. For accumulated unused sick leave: A participating 16 employee who is applying for a retirement annuity shall be 17 entitled to creditable service for that portion of the 18 employee's accumulated unused sick leave for which payment 19 is not received, as follows:

20a. Sick leave days shall be limited to those21accumulated under a sick leave plan established by a22participating municipality or participating23instrumentality which is available to all employees or24a class of employees.

25 b. Only sick leave days accumulated with a or participating 26 participating municipality 27 instrumentality with which the employee was in service 28 within 60 days of the effective date of his retirement 29 annuity shall be credited; If the employee was in 30 service with more than one employer during this period 31 only the sick leave days with the employer with which 32 the employee has the greatest number of unpaid sick leave days shall be considered. 33

34 c. The creditable service granted shall be 35 considered solely for the purpose of computing the 36 amount of the retirement annuity and shall not be used

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to establish any minimum service period required by any provision of the Illinois Pension Code, the effective date of the retirement annuity, or the final rate of earnings.

d. The creditable service shall be at the rate of 1/20 of a month for each full sick day, provided that no more than 12 months may be credited under this subdivision 8.

9 e. Employee contributions shall not be required 10 for creditable service under this subdivision 8.

11 f. Each participating municipality and participating instrumentality with which an employee 12 has service within 60 days of the effective date of his 13 retirement annuity shall certify to the board the 14 number of accumulated unpaid sick leave days credited 15 16 to the employee at the time of termination of service.

For service transferred from another system: 17 9. Credits and creditable service shall be granted for service 18 under Article 3, 4, 5, 14 or 16 of this Act, to any active 19 20 member of this Fund, and to any inactive member who has been a county sheriff, upon transfer of such credits 21 pursuant to Section 3-110.3, 4-108.3, 5-235, 14-105.6 or 22 23 16-131.4, and payment by the member of the amount by which (1) the employer and employee contributions that would have 24 been required if he had participated in this Fund as a 25 sheriff's law enforcement employee during the period for 26 27 which credit is being transferred, plus interest thereon at 28 the effective rate for each year, compounded annually, from the date of termination of the service for which credit is 29 being transferred to the date of payment, exceeds (2) the 30 31 amount actually transferred to the Fund. Such transferred 32 service shall be deemed to be service as a sheriff's law enforcement employee for the purposes of Section 7-142.1. 33

34With respect to any transfer pursuant to Section353-110.3 made under this subdivision (a)9 on or after the36effective date of this amendatory Act of the 94th General

1 Assembly, the municipality that employed the person at the 2 time of the service for which credit is being transferred shall remain responsible for any costs arising from the 3 transfer of that service in excess of the amounts 4 5 transferred under that Section and the amount, if any, paid for that transfer by the person under this subdivision. The 6 Board of Trustees shall, from time to time, collect from 7 the municipality any amount it determines to be necessary 8 9 to discharge that responsibility.

10 (b) Creditable service - amount:

11 1. One month of creditable service shall be allowed for each month for which a participating employee made 12 contributions as required under Section 7-173, or for which 13 creditable service is otherwise granted hereunder. Not 14 more than 1 month of service shall be credited and counted 15 16 for 1 calendar month, and not more than 1 year of service 17 shall be credited and counted for any calendar year. A calendar month means a nominal month beginning on the first 18 day thereof, and a calendar year means a year beginning 19 20 January 1 and ending December 31.

2. A seasonal employee shall be given 12 months of 22 creditable service if he renders the number of months of 23 service normally required by the position in a 12-month 24 period and he remains in service for the entire 12-month 25 period. Otherwise a fractional year of service in the 26 number of months of service rendered shall be credited.

3. An intermittent employee shall be given creditable
service for only those months in which a contribution is
made under Section 7-173.

30 (c) No application for correction of credits or creditable 31 service shall be considered unless the board receives an 32 application for correction while (1) the applicant is a participating employee and in active employment with 33 а participating municipality or instrumentality, or (2) while 34 the applicant is actively participating in a pension fund or 35 retirement system which is a participating system under the 36

Retirement Systems Reciprocal Act. A participating employee or other applicant shall not be entitled to credits or creditable service unless the required employee contributions are made in a lump sum or in installments made in accordance with board rule.

(d) Upon the granting of a retirement, surviving spouse or 6 7 child annuity, a death benefit or a separation benefit, on 8 account of any employee, all individual accumulated credits 9 shall thereupon terminate. Upon the withdrawal of additional 10 contributions, the credits applicable thereto shall thereupon 11 terminate. Terminated credits shall not be applied to increase 12 the benefits any remaining employee would otherwise receive under this Article. 13

14 (Source: P.A. 92-424, eff. 8-17-01; 93-933, eff. 8-13-04.)

Section 90. The State Mandates Act is amended by adding Section 8.29 as follows:

17 (30 ILCS 805/8.29 new)

18 Sec. 8.29. Exempt mandate. Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8 19 of this Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for the 20 implementation of any mandate created by this amendatory Act of 21 the 94th General Assembly.

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect uponbecoming law.