



SR0088

LRB095 11471 BDD 32473 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The U.S. Congress amended title II of the Social Security Act in 1977 to enact the Government Pension Offset and in 1983 to enact the Windfall Elimination Provision; and

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WHEREAS, The majority of public employees affected by the Government Pension Offset lost their entire spousal benefit despite the fact that their spouses paid Social Security contributions for many years; and

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WHEREAS, The Windfall Elimination Provision causes public employees to lose up to 60% of the benefits that they earned; and

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WHEREAS, According to the Social Security Administration's actuaries, the long-term cost of eliminating both of these provisions is negligible while the loss of income to affected employees caused by these provisions forces some civil servants into poverty; and

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WHEREAS, These provisions discriminate against teachers, police, firefighters, social workers, and other civil servants; and

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WHEREAS, The State and national shortage of teachers,

1 police officers, and firefighters is exacerbated by these
2 provisions because they discourage people from entering and
3 staying in these professions; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge the U.S.
6 Congress to pass legislation that eliminates both the
7 Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Elimination
8 Provision; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
10 delivered to the President pro tempore of the U.S. Senate, the
11 Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, and each member
12 of the Illinois Congressional delegation.