



NH Retirement System
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2014 Legislative Tracker: Final

July 20, 2014

Legislation introduced in the 2014 session that would impact the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS, the retirement system) is listed below. For details on a particular bill, visit the State of New Hampshire General Court website at: <http://gencourt.state.nh.us/>

BILL #	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	PRIMARY SPONSOR	STATUS
ACTIVE NHRS-RELATED BILLS			
HB 1130	This bill makes changes to the Northeastern Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact, including an amendment to RSA 100-A which allows retirees to exceed the 32-hour per week statutory limit on part-time employment "while providing assistance during an emergency." For purposes of this section, an emergency includes any event declared by the governor or while working under the direction of the director of the Division of Forests and Lands during woodland fire control.	Rep. Gene Chandler	5/28/14: Signed into law by the Governor (Chapter 0045). Effective 7/26/14.
HB 1152	This bill repeals the optional benefit program available to eligible call, substitute, or volunteer firefighters through the retirement system, and provides for the refund of remaining funds after the completion of payments to the two remaining beneficiaries.	Rep. Raymond Gagnon	5/27/14: Signed into law by the Governor (Chapter 0048). Effective 7/1/14.
HB 1398	This bill allows the retirement system to make a payment of \$15,000 or less to the next of kin of a deceased member when no probate proceedings are pending.	Rep. Raymond Gagnon	5/23/14: Signed into law by the Governor (Chapter 0026). Effective 7/22/14.
HB 1494	This bill: (1) adds definitions of terms used in RSA 100-A and clarifies existing definitions; (2) revises the procedure for calculating the cost of purchasing credit for certain types of prior service; (3) clarifies the ability to earn service credit while on a salary continuance plan; (4) corrects an inconsistency in the statute regarding the approval date of the comprehensive annual financial report; (5) adds penalties for employers who fail to remit correct data in a timely manner; and (6) repeals obsolete provisions.	Rep. Raymond Gagnon	7/11/14: Signed into law by the Governor (Chapter 0183). Effective 7/1/14.
HB 1617	This bill grants NHRS electronic access to a limited data set of death, marriage, and divorce information of members and beneficiaries held by the Division of Vital Records Administration for purposes of administering RSA 100-A.	Rep. Raymond Gagnon	5/23/14: Signed into law by the Governor (Chapter 0030). Effective 7/22/14.
SB 339	This bill authorizes the state Department of Administrative Services to contract for a credit card affinity program in which fees received are directed to offset the retirement system's unfunded liability.	Sen. Nancy Stiles	6/16/14: Signed into law by the Governor (Chapter 0142). Effective upon passage.

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INACTIVE NHRS-RELATED BILLS			
HB 1101	This bill requires the retirement system to recover overpayments made due to errors in records or calculation of benefits, and establishes a legislative study committee to review NHRS policies and procedures regarding benefits wrongfully paid and the methods used for the recoupment of such overpayments.	Rep. Peter Hansen	3/19/14: House ED&A Committee report of ITL adopted by House on a roll call vote, 183-138. Bill is dead.
HB 1126	This bill establishes a legislative committee to study alternative public employee retirement plans.	Rep. David Hess	3/6/14: House ED&A Committee report of ITL adopted by House on a voice vote. Bill is dead.
HB 1148	This bill provides for the application of the reduction of a Group I retiree's annuity to begin at the retiree's full retirement age under the federal Social Security system. The reduction currently commences upon attainment of age 65 for all Group I retirees.	Rep. Sylvia Gale	2/12/14: House ED&A Committee recommendation of Refer to Interim Study adopted by House on a voice vote. Bill is dead.
HB 1399	This bill establishes a time frame for filing an application for Vested Deferred Retirement with the retirement system.	Rep. Raymond Gagnon	3/12/14: House voted to table the bill, 200-92. Bill is dead.
HB 1493	This bill suspends a retiree's pension benefit for exceeding the statutory limitations on part-time employment with a retirement system employer outlined in RSA 100-A:1, XXXIV. The bill also clarifies the membership requirements for officials appointed for fixed terms.	Rep. Raymond Gagnon	3/19/14: House ED&A Committee report of ITL adopted by House on a voice vote. Bill is dead.
HB 1563	This bill grants Group II status to certain positions in the department of corrections. Persons employed in those positions with service prior to the effective date shall be eligible for split benefits.	Rep. Robert Cushing	2/12/14: House ED&A Committee recommendation of Refer to Interim Study adopted by House on a voice vote. Bill is dead.
SB 218	This bill provides that all Employee, Teacher, Police, and Fire members of the retirement system who commence service on or after July 1, 2014, shall be classified as Group I members. The bill also removes the exclusion for Police and Fire members hired on or after July 1, 2014 for eligibility in the Social Security system.	Sen. John Reagan	3/13/14: Senate ED&A Committee report of ITL adopted by House on a voice vote. Bill is dead.
SB 364	This bill increases the Group II Service Retirement benefit formula for members hired on or after January 1, 2012; it also establishes a supplemental defined contribution plan for Group I members hired on or after January 1, 2012, to which employers are required to contribute an amount equal to 4% of the member's base pay.	Sen. Sylvia Larsen	3/13/14: Senate ED&A Committee report of ITL adopted by House on a 12-11 vote. Bill is dead.
SB 395	This bill addresses the retirement system member classification of the director of the Division of Forests and Lands.	Sen. Lou D'Allesandro	5/14/14: House Finance Committee report of inexpedient to legislate (ITL) adopted by House on a voice vote. Bill is dead.
NON-NHRS-RELATED BILL OF INTEREST TO NHRS RETIREES			
HB 1155	This bill allows the commissioner of administrative services to determine the premium contribution percentage for health coverage for retired state employees and their spouses.	Rep. Chris Muns	3/12/14: 3/6/14: House ED&A Committee report of ITL adopted by House on a voice vote. Bill is dead.
NHRS-RELATED BILLS HELD OVER FROM 2013 SESSION			
HB 341	This bill requires that the actuarial and professional cost of fiscal analysis of proposed NHRS-related legislation required under RSA 14:44 not be paid for with NHRS assets or charged as an expense of administration.	Rep. Katherine Rogers	1/29/14: House Finance Committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate (ITL) adopted by House, 221-103, on a roll call vote. Bill is dead.

BILL #	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	PRIMARY SPONSOR	STATUS
HB 473	This bill defines permanent police for purposes of NHRS to include the University System (USNH) police force, and allows current USNH police force members to purchase certain prior USNH service as Group II service.	Rep. Dan Sullivan	1/13/13: House ED&A Committee report of Refer to Interim Study adopted by House on a voice vote. Bill is dead.
HB 627	This bill provides that upon retirement, a member's accrued unused sick and vacation time shall be converted to hours and applied to the pension benefit calculation as additional creditable service.	Rep. Dan McGuire	1/22/14: House ED&A Committee report of Inexpedient to Legislate (ITL) adopted by House, 198-141, on a roll call vote. Bill is dead.
<p>Committee Key: ED&A = Executive Departments & Administration. Location Key: LOB = Legislative Office Building; SH = State House.</p>			