



## DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

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February 7, 2007

The Honorable Bill Heath State Senator  
State Capitol, Room 109  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: State Auditor's Certification  
Senate Bill 162 (LC 21 9238)

Dear Senator Heath:

This bill would amend provisions relating to disability benefits under the Employees' Retirement System. Specifically, this bill would revise the method for calculating disability benefits for persons who become members of the Employees Retirement System on or after July 1, 2007. If this legislation is enacted, members would be required to have 15 years of creditable service in order to become eligible for disability benefits. Eligible members would receive a disability benefit which is calculated based upon the number of years of creditable service attained and based upon his or her highest average monthly compensation during a period of 24 consecutive calendar months. Disability benefits paid to any person who is a member of the System on June 30, 2007 will continue to be calculated based on the existing provisions.

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

Respectfully,

/s/ Russell W. Hinton  
State Auditor