



DOAA

Georgia Department
of Audits & Accounts

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

February 6, 2024

The Honorable Rick Williams, Chairman
Senate Retirement Committee
Coverdell Legislative Office Building, Room 327-B
Atlanta, GA 30334

SUBJECT: State Auditor's Certification
Substitute to Senate Bill 322 (LC 56 0100S)

Dear Chairman Williams:

This bill would amend several provisions relating to the Sheriffs' Retirement Fund of Georgia. Specifically, this bill would (1) increase the cost to purchase creditable service from \$37.50 per month of creditable service to \$65 per month; (2) increase the monthly membership dues from \$45 to \$65; (3) increase the death benefit from \$15,000 to \$35,000; and (4) prohibit the payment of retirement benefits to any person who becomes a member on or after July 1, 2024 and is convicted of a felony related to his or her employment.

The provisions of the substitute bill would also provide for the increase in fees collected on behalf of the Fund. Specifically, this substitute bill would (1) increase the fees collected from each civil filing from \$1 to \$5; and (2) allow the Fund to receive \$2 from each fee collected prior to the adjudication of guilt for purposes of pretrial diversion pertaining to any criminal or quasi-criminal case for violation of state statutes, county ordinances, or municipal ordinances. Currently, no portion of the fee is remitted to the Sheriffs' Retirement Fund.

This is to certify that this substitute bill is a reduction in cost amendment as defined in the Public Retirement System Standards Law. A revised actuarial investigation and State Auditor's Certification is attached for Senate Bill 322 (LC 56 0100S).

Respectfully,

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

GSG/cs