

SFA

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Fiscal Agency

Lansing, Michigan 48909

(517) 373-5383

RECEIVED

MAY 23 1989

Mich. State Law Library

House Bill 4179 (as reported without amendment)
Sponsor: Representative Mary Brown
House Committee: Senior Citizens and Retirement
Senate Committee: Judiciary

Date Completed: 4-11-89

RATIONALE

Efforts have been made during the last decade or so to use gender neutral language in the State's laws, but some Acts still include gender specific terms. The police and fire retirement systems law was drafted in 1937, when few, if any, women were employed as police officers or fire fighters, and the Act's language reflects the original male predominance in those occupations. Some feel that the gender biased language should be removed.

CONTENT

The bill would amend the police and fire retirement systems law to replace gender specific terms with gender neutral language. Under the bill, the law would be known as the "Fire Fighters and Police Officers Retirement Act".

MCL 38.553 et al.

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

ARGUMENTS**Supporting Argument**

The Act's gender biased language is archaic. The bill would reflect the employment of both sexes in the police and fire professions.

Legislative Analyst: P. Affholter
Fiscal Analyst: M. Hansen

H8990\S4179A

This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

H.B. 4179 (4-11-89)