Legislative Analysis



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SPECIAL NEEDS TRUST AS BENEFICIARY

House Bill 5985 as introduced Sponsor: Rep. Stephanie A. Young

House Bill 5986 as introduced Sponsor: Rep. Kara Hope

House Bill 5987 as introduced Sponsor: Rep. Jenn Hill

House Bill 5988 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. Tyrone Carter

House Bill 5989 as introduced
Sponsor: Rep. John Fitzgerald

Committee: Families, Children and Seniors

Revised 12-8-24

SUMMARY:

The bills would amend different acts that establish and govern retirement systems to provide that, if a retirement allowance beneficiary is a beneficiary of certain trusts established for disabled individuals under age 65 under the Social Security Act (known as special needs trusts), the retirement allowance payable to beneficiary may be paid to that trust upon written direction to the retirement system by the retirant or, after the retirant's death, by the retirement allowance beneficiary (or their legal representative if the beneficiary is a minor or incapacitated).

The bills would add the above provisions to the following acts:

- House Bill 5985: the Judges Retirement Act (38.2506).
 - House Bill 5986: the State Employees' Retirement Act (38.31).
 - House Bill 5987: the Public School Employees Retirement Act (MCL 38.1385).
- House Bill 5988: the State Police Retirement Act (MCL 38.1624).
- House Bill 5989: the Protecting Local Government Retirement and Benefits Act (MCL 38.2814a).

In addition, House Bill 5989 would repeal section 2 of the Protecting Local Government Retirement and Benefits Act, which contains legislative findings and declarations regarding the 2017 enactment of that act.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The bills would have no direct fiscal impact on the retirement systems.

Legislative Analyst: E. Best Fiscal Analyst: Ben Gielczyk

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

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¹ Specifically, under 42 USC 1396p(d)(4)(A) or (C). See https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/42/1396p