# GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

## Session 2005

## Legislative Actuarial Note

### RETIREMENT

**BILL NUMBER:** Senate Bill 1537 (First Edition)

**SHORT TITLE:** Increase Maximum National Guard Pension.

**SPONSOR(S):** Senator Hagan

FUNDS AFFECTED: General Fund

SYSTEM OR PROGRAM AFFECTED: North Carolina National Guard Pension Fund

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 1, 2006

**PROVISION SUMMARY**: Increases the benefit from the North Carolina National Guard Pension Fund from \$75 to \$112.50 per month for the first 20 years of creditable service and from \$7.50 to \$11.25 per month for each additional year of creditable service with the maximum benefit increased from \$150 to \$225 per month.

**ESTIMATED IMPACT ON STATE:** Both, Buck Consultants, the Retirement System's actuary, and Hartman & Associates, the General Assembly's actuary, agree that the cost will be as follows:

**2006-07 2007-08 2008-09 2009-10 2010-11** Annual Cost \$7,230,000 \$7,230,000 \$7,230,000 \$7,230,000

#### ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY: North Carolina National Guard Pension Fund

The cost estimates of the Fund's Actuary are based on the employee data, actuarial assumptions and actuarial methods used to prepare the December 31, 2004 actuarial valuation of the fund. The data included 8,005 active members, 6,924 former members entitled to deferred benefits and 2,461 retired members in receipt of annual pensions totaling \$2.3 million. Significant actuarial assumptions used include (a) an investment return rate of 7.25%, (b) the 1979 George B. Buck Mortality Table for deaths after retirement and (c) rates of separation from active service based on Fund experience. The actuarial cost method used was the entry age method with open-end unfunded accrued liability and a frozen unfunded liquidation period of nine years. Detailed information concerning these assumptions and methods is shown in the actuary's report, which is available upon request from Stanley Moore.

**SOURCES OF DATA:** Buck Consultants

Hartman & Associates, LLC

**TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:** None

**FISCAL RESEARCH DIVISION: (919) 733-4910.** The above information is provided in accordance with North Carolina General Statute 120-114 and applicable rules of the North Carolina Senate and House of Representatives.

PREPARED BY: Stanley Moore

APPROVED BY: Lynn Muchmore, Director

Fiscal Research Division

**DATE:** May 19, 2006



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