

SENATE BILL 311: No Waiting Period Under LGERS/VFDF Grants.

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee:	House Pensions and Retirement. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	August 17, 2021
Introduced by: Analysis of:	Sen. Corbin PCS to Second Edition S311-CSBCp-51	Prepared by:	Jason Moran-Bates Committee Staff

OVERVIEW: The PCS to Senate Bill 311 would prohibit employers from imposing a waiting period on employees who are eligible for membership in the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (LGERS). It would also update the Volunteer Fire Department Fund (VFDF) grant matching requirements.

CURRENT LAW: Under current law, local government employers may impose a waiting period before otherwise eligible employees can become members of LGERS. Grants made under the Volunteer Fire Department Fund must be matched by the entity applying for the grant on a dollar-for-dollar basis, unless the entity receives less than \$50,000 in municipal and county funding. Thos entities must match with one dollar of their own funds for every three dollars in grant money.

BILL ANALYSIS:

<u>Section 1</u> would prevent employers who participate in LGERS from imposing a waiting period on employees who are eligible to become members of the system.

<u>Section 2</u> would require volunteer fire departments to match funds awarded under the VFDF as follows:

- Entities that receive less than \$50,000 in municipal and county funding would not be required to match the grant funding.
- Entities that receive between \$50,000 and \$75,000 in municipal and county funding would be required to match one dollar for every three dollars in grant funding.
- Entities that receive more than \$75,000 in municipal and county funding would be required to match on a dollar-for-dollar basis.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This bill would be effective October 1, 2021.

Jeffrey Hudson Director



Legislative Analysis Division 919-733-2578

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