



**State Auditor's
Fire Relief
Association
Working Group**

WHAT ARE RELIEF ASSOCIATIONS?

- Governmental entities that also are nonprofits
- Governed by state law and local bylaws
- Provide retirement benefits to over 15,000 volunteer and paid on-call firefighters



WHAT IS A RELIEF ASSOCIATION?

- Run by elected, local boards of trustees
- File annual reports with the OSA and meet statutory requirements to qualify for Fire State Aid
- Primary source of non-investment revenue



WHAT IS THE WORKING GROUP?

- Established by the OSA in 2004
- Consider and vet proposed legislative changes
- Members are relief association members, fire chiefs, and city and town officials



WHAT'S IN THE BILL?

- Art. 1: Clarifies municipal approval requirements for benefit level and bylaw changes
- Art. 2: Clarifies requirements if a relief association is involuntarily dissolved



WHAT'S IN THE BILL?

- Art. 3: Clarifies that an officer may certify on behalf of the board of trustees that the board reviewed its annual investment report
- Art. 4: Clarifies the period of time that investment returns must be allocated to DC Plan deferred members



WHAT'S IN THE BILL?

- Art. 5: Adds definitions of “volunteer,” “paid on-call,” part-time,” and “full-time/career” firefighter to relief association statutes
- Definitions are only applicable to Chapters 424A and 424B
- Revises references to align with new definitions





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