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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION

H. F. No. 298

01/22/2015 Authored by Runbeck

The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Government Operations and Elections Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to retirement; Centennial Volunteer Firefighters Relief Association and
1.3 the cities of Lino Lakes, Circle Pines, and Centerville; providing for continued
1.4 retirement coverage by the current relief association upon the withdrawal of one
1.5 city from the Centennial Fire Department joint powers agreement.

1.6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.7 Section 1. CENTENNIAL VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS RELIEF
1.8 ASSOCIATION; COVERAGE FOR MULTIPLE FIRE DEPARTMENTS.

1.9 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of Minnesota Statutes, chapters 424A and 424B,
1.10 to the contrary, if one of the cities covered by the Centennial Fire Department joint
1.11 powers agreement withdraws from the agreement under the terms of the agreement, the
1.12 Centennial Volunteer Firefighters Relief Association, by action of its board of trustees,
1.13 may continue to provide service pension and ancillary retirement benefit coverage to the
1.14 active firefighters of the fire department of the withdrawing city in the same manner as in
1.15 effect before the withdrawal from the joint powers agreement.

1.16 (b) If the Centennial Volunteer Firefighters Relief Association board of trustees
1.17 approves the coverage continuation under paragraph (a), service credit, vesting eligibility,
1.18 and pension or benefit computation after the joint powers agreement withdrawal must
1.19 recognize the postwithdrawal period as a continuation of the prewithdrawal period.

1.20 (c) If coverage continuation under paragraph (a) is implemented, the terms of the
1.21 prewithdrawal municipal representatives on the board of trustees ends at the end of the
1.22 month next following the month in which the paragraph (a) approval action occurred. New
1.23 municipal representatives must be designated for the remainder of the one-year term. The
1.24 fire chief position on the board of trustees must alternate annually between the fire chief of
1.25 the joint powers fire department and the fire chief of the withdrawing city. If the fire chief

2.1 board position is filled by the fire chief of the withdrawing city fire department, the other  
 2.2 two municipal board representatives must be filled by the governing bodies of the cities  
 2.3 remaining in the joint powers fire department agreement. If the fire chief board position is  
 2.4 filled by the joint powers fire department fire chief, one of the other two municipal board  
 2.5 representatives must be filled by the governing body of the withdrawing city and the other  
 2.6 municipal board representative must be filled by the joint powers governing board.

2.7 (d) If coverage continuation under paragraph (a) is implemented, all fire state aid  
 2.8 and all police and fire supplemental retirement state aid received by the cities covered  
 2.9 by the joint powers fire department agreement and by the city withdrawing from the  
 2.10 joint powers fire department agreement must be deposited in the Centennial Volunteer  
 2.11 Firefighters Relief Association.

2.12 (e) If a minimum municipal obligation for the Centennial Volunteer Firefighters  
 2.13 Relief Association is determined and certified by the relief association officers under  
 2.14 Minnesota Statutes, section 424A.092, after the coverage continuation under paragraph (a)  
 2.15 is implemented, the required municipal levy must be allocated between all cities served  
 2.16 by fire departments covered by the relief association. The allocation must be made in  
 2.17 proportion to the total fire state aid and police and fire supplemental retirement state aid  
 2.18 received by each city to the sum of the total state aids of all cities.

2.19 (f) If coverage continuation under paragraph (a) is implemented and bylaw  
 2.20 amendment approval is required under Minnesota Statutes, sections 424A.02, subdivision  
 2.21 10, and 424A.092, subdivision 6, that approval must be obtained by all cities with fire  
 2.22 departments with Centennial Volunteer Firefighters Relief Association service pension  
 2.23 coverage.

2.24 **Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE; LOCAL APPROVAL REQUIREMENT.**

2.25 This section is effective the day after the latest date on which the governing bodies and  
 2.26 the chief clerical officers of the cities of Centerville, Circle Pines, and Lino Lakes timely  
 2.27 complete their compliance with Minnesota Statutes, section 645.021, subdivisions 2 and 3.