



SUMMARY OF 2026 PENSION PROVISIONS

State Police Benefits – 2026-H 7127

Incorporated as part of the state budget, this legislation amends the final average salary formula from the highest five years to the highest three years for members of the state police, mirroring changes made for state employees in 2024. This change is retroactive to July 1, 2024. The accrual rate will increase from 2% to 3% after 20 years of service for members hired before July 1, 2007, and to 3% after 25 years of service for members hired on or after July 1, 2027 (while retaining the maximum benefit of 65%).

Teachers' Survivor Benefits (TSB) – 2026-H 7683/2026-S 2678

This bill increases and indexes the minimum benefit under the Teachers' Survivor Benefit Plan (the "TSB" plan). The annual index is based on the annual social security adjustment. The TSB Plan is for teachers in participating school districts who contribute to the fund, in lieu of Social Security, to provide benefits for their survivors in the event of their death.

Post-Retirement Police Details

2026-H 8253/2026-S 2935 – This new law allows police officers who retired from units in the Municipal Employees' Retirement System to work state-funded details without forfeiture of their pension benefit. Retired police officers will be eligible to work up to 75 days post-retirement, regardless of funding source.

Central Falls Legacy Plans

2026-H 8506/2026-S 3252 – This bill amends provisions of the Central Falls pension plan for police officers and firefighters in active service prior to August 31, 2019. By its language, this bill would incorporate retirement benefits included in the "respective collective bargaining agreement in effect on July 1, 2026." Hereafter, legacy police officers are provided benefits similar to MERS units. Legacy firefighters will now accrue 2% annually after 25 years of service, up to 70% or age 65, and will contribute 10% (previously 11.7%).

Note:

Teachers Post-Retirement Employment

Previous legislation that temporarily allowed teachers to exceed statutory post-retirement employment caps and work up to 180 full days was *not renewed* and expired following the 2026 school year. Hereafter, retired teachers will only be eligible to work 90 days post-retirement without interruption of pension benefits.