

PRINTING CODE. Deletions appear in ~~this style type~~. Insertions appear in this style type. Typeface changes are shown in **this** **style** **type** or in **this** **style** **type**.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1188

Proposed Changes to introduced printing by AM118801

### DIGEST OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT

School police pension matters. Makes changes to the definition of a "school resource officer" for provisions relating to the 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund (1977 fund). Provides that a school police department may participate in the 1977 fund. Establishes requirements for establishing a local board for school police departments. Provides that an appointing authority shall waive the age restriction for a school resource officer for purposes of the 1977 fund if: (1) on the date the individual applies to be appointed and hired, the individual is a veteran who has completed at least 20 years of military service; (2) the individual received or is eligible to receive a discharge from the armed forces of the United States under conditions other than certain specified conditions; and (3) the individual meets all other requirements for appointment and hiring. Provides that a school corporation or charter school that employs a school resource officer must enter into a contract or memorandum of understanding with a local law enforcement agency for the purpose of complying with the reporting and payment requirements for purposes of the 1977 fund. Makes conforming amendments.

---

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning pensions.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 10-12-5-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 1. This chapter is  
3 intended to be a supplement to IC 10-12-3 **and** **IC 10-12-4** and does  
4 not repeal, impair, or otherwise adversely affect the pension fund or  
5 pension benefits provided for in IC 10-12-3 **and** **IC 10-12-4** for eligible  
6 employees of the department.

7 SECTION 2. IC 10-12-5-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
8 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. To become eligible  
9 for any supplemental benefits provided in this chapter, an employee of  
10 the department must:

2026

IN 1188—LS 6774/DI 153



DOCUMENT HAS NOT BEEN CHECKED FOR ACCURACY

10 SECTION 3. IC 10-12-5-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.201-2023,  
11 SECTION 124, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
12 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) The pension advisory board  
13 that administers the pension under IC 10-12-3 **and** IC 10-12-4 shall  
14 direct and supervise the supplemental benefits provided in this chapter.

(c) This subsection applies only to a retiree **under IC 10-12-3** who is eligible for the first time under section 2 of this chapter to receive a supplemental benefit **and who retires before July 1, 2026**. The supplemental benefit referred to in subsection (b)(2) for a retiree in the first year the retiree is eligible for a supplemental benefit is the sum of:

27       any year the pension is eligible for a supplemental pension is the same as  
28       (1) the difference between:  
29           (A) the retiree's pension benefit; and  
30           (B) the pension benefit:  
31              (i) received by an employee retiring in that year from  
32              the department with twenty (20) years of active service  
33              **whose average monthly wage is equal to the**  
34              **monthly wage received by a police employee in the**  
35              **grade of trooper at the beginning of the trooper's**  
36              **sixth year of service;** and  
37              (ii) computed on the day the pension advisory board  
38              meets as required under subsection (b)(2); plus  
39       (2) any amount computed under subsection (d) after the date the  
40       retiree reaches fifty-five (55) years of age.

2026

IN 1188—LS 6774/DI 153



**DOCUMENT HAS NOT BEEN CHECKED FOR ACCURACY**

1 benefit, but whose supplemental benefit is not computed under  
 2 subsection (c). The supplemental benefit referred to in subsection  
 3 (b)(2) is equal to **the following**:

4           **(1) For a supplemental benefit calculated in 2026, either:**

5            **(A) if on July 1, 2026, there is no change in the monthly**  
 6            **wage received by a police employee in the grade of**  
 7            **trooper at the beginning of the trooper's sixth year of**  
 8            **service, fifty percent (50%) of the difference between:**

9            *(i) the pension benefits to be received by an*  
 10           *employee retiring from the department with twenty*  
 11           *(20) years of active service and whose average*  
 12           *monthly wage is equal to the monthly wage received*  
 13           *by a police employee in the grade of trooper at the*  
 14           *beginning of the trooper's sixth year of service; and*  
 15           *(ii) the pension benefits to be received by an*  
 16           *employee retiring from the department with twenty*  
 17           *(20) years of active service and whose average*  
 18           *monthly wage is equal to the monthly wage received*  
 19           *by a police employee in the grade of trooper at the*  
 20           *beginning of the trooper's fourth year of service; or*

21           **(B) if the condition described in clause (A) does not**  
 22           **apply, fifty percent (50%) of the difference between:**

23           *(i) the pension benefits to be received by an*  
 24           *employee retiring from the department with twenty*  
 25           *(20) years of active service and whose average*  
 26           *monthly wage is equal to the monthly wage received*  
 27           *by a police employee in the grade of trooper at the*  
 28           *beginning of the trooper's sixth year of service the*  
 29           *day after a change in the monthly wage received by*  
 30           *a police employee in the grade of trooper at the*  
 31           *beginning of the trooper's sixth year of service; and*  
 32           *(ii) the pension benefit received by an employee*  
 33           *retiring from the department with twenty (20) years*  
 34           *of active service and whose average monthly wage*  
 35           *is equal to the monthly wage received by a police*  
 36           *employee in the grade of trooper at the beginning of*  
 37           *the trooper's fourth year of service the day before*  
 38           *a change in the monthly wage received by a police*  
 39           *employee in the grade of trooper at the beginning of*  
 40           *the trooper's fourth year of service.*

41           **(2) For a supplemental benefit calculated in a year not**  
 42           **described in subdivision (1), fifty percent (50%) of the**

2026

IN 1188—LS 6774/DI 153



DOCUMENT HAS NOT BEEN CHECKED FOR ACCURACY

1 difference between:

2       **(+) (A)** the pension benefits to be received by an employee  
 3        retiring from the department:

4           **(i)** with twenty (20) years of active service; **and**  
 5           **(ii) whose average monthly wage is equal to the**  
 6           **monthly wage received by a police employee in the**  
 7           **grade of trooper at the beginning of the trooper's**  
 8           **sixth year of service;**

9        the day after a change in the monthly wage received by a  
 10      police employee in the grade of trooper at the beginning of  
 11      the trooper's ~~fourth~~ **sixth** year of service; and

12       **(2) (B)** the pension benefit received by an employee retiring  
 13      from the department:

14           **(i)** with twenty (20) years of active service; **and**  
 15           **(ii) whose average monthly wage is equal to the**  
 16           **monthly wage received by a police employee in the**  
 17           **grade of trooper at the beginning of the trooper's**  
 18           **sixth year of service;**

19        the day before a change in the monthly wage received by a  
 20      police employee in the grade of trooper at the beginning of  
 21      the trooper's ~~fourth~~ **sixth** year of service.

22       **(e) This subsection applies to a retiree under IC 10-12-4 who**  
 23      **is eligible under section 2 of this chapter to receive a supplemental**  
 24      **benefit and who has not already received a supplemental benefit**  
 25      **under this subsection. The supplemental benefit referred to in**  
 26      **subsection (b)(2) is equal to fifty percent (50%) of the difference**  
 27      **between:**

28           **(1) the retiree's pension benefit; and**

29           **(2) the pension benefit:**

30           **(A) received by an employee retiring in that year from**  
 31           **the department with twenty-five (25) years of active**  
 32           **service whose average monthly wage is equal to the**  
 33           **monthly wage received by a police employee in the**  
 34           **grade of trooper at the beginning of the trooper's sixth**  
 35           **year of service; and**

36           **(B) computed on the day the pension advisory board**  
 37           **meets as required under subsection (b)(2).**

38       **For purposes of this subsection, a retiree that meets the criteria in**  
 39      **section 2 of this chapter may be eligible for supplemental benefits**  
 40      **notwithstanding the fact that the retiree received benefits under**  
 41      **IC 10-12-4 prior to July 1, 2026.**

42       **(f) This subsection applies to a retiree under IC 10-12-4 who**



1       **is eligible under section 2 of this chapter to receive a supplemental  
2        benefit, but whose supplemental benefit is not computed under  
3        subsection (e). The supplemental benefit referred to in subsection  
4        (b)(2) is equal to fifty percent (50%) of the difference between:**

5           **(1) the pension benefit to be received by an employee retiring  
6        from the department:**

7               **(A) with twenty-five (25) years of active service; and  
8               (B) whose average monthly wage is equal to the monthly  
9        wage received by a police employee in the grade of  
10       trooper at the beginning of the trooper's sixth year of  
11       service;**

12       **the day after a change in the monthly wage received by a  
13       police employee in the grade of trooper at the beginning of  
14       the trooper's sixth year of service; and**

15           **(2) the pension benefit received by an employee retiring from  
16       the department:**

17               **(A) with twenty-five (25) years of active service; and  
18               (B) whose average monthly wage is equal to the monthly  
19        wage received by a police employee in the grade of  
20       trooper at the beginning of the trooper's sixth year of  
21       service;**

22       **the day before a change in the monthly wage received by a  
23       police employee in the grade of trooper at the beginning of  
24       the trooper's sixth year of service.**

25       **SECTION 4. IC 10-12-5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-2009,  
26       SECTION 89, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
27       JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4. This section applies to supplemental benefits  
28       paid to employee beneficiaries receiving pension benefits under  
29       IC 10-12-3. As an incentive to all employees of the department, the  
30       supplemental pension benefits of this chapter shall be increased by  
31       more than the increase provided in section 3(c) or 3(d) of this chapter,  
32       at the rate of a five percent (5%) per year increase for each year of  
33       active service over twenty (20) years up to thirty (30) years of service,  
34       as calculated in section 3(c) or 3(d) of this chapter.**

35       **SECTION 5. IC 10-12-5-4.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
36       CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
37       [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 4.5. This section applies to  
38       supplemental benefits paid to employee beneficiaries receiving  
39       pension benefits under IC 10-12-4. As an incentive to all employees  
40       of the department, the supplemental pension benefits of this  
41       chapter shall be increased by more than the increase provided in  
42       section 3(e) or 3(f) of this chapter, at the rate of a five percent (5%)**



1       per year increase for each year of active service over twenty-five  
 2       (25) years up to thirty-five (35) years of service, as calculated in  
 3       section 3(e) or 3(f) of this chapter.

4       SECTION 6. IC 10-12-5-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
 5       FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. The supplemental  
 6       pension benefits provided for in this chapter shall be paid at the same  
 7       time and along with the regular pension benefits. **First time payments**  
 8       **of and increases to supplemental pension benefits shall be paid or**  
 9       **commence beginning in July of each year.**[

10       SECTION 7. IC 36-8-4.7-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.115-2016,  
 11       SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 12       JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "appointing authority"  
 13       means:

14       (1) the chief executive officer, board, or other entity of a police  
 15       department with authority to appoint and hire a member of the  
 16       police department; or  
 17       (2) the chief executive officer, board, or other entity of a fire  
 18       department with authority to appoint and hire a member of the  
 19       fire department;  
 20       (3) for purposes of a school resource officer who becomes or  
 21       remains a member of the 1977 fund under IC 36-8-8-3(f) or  
 22       IC 36-8-8-3(g), the governing body of a school corporation or  
 23       the equivalent for a charter school; or  
 24       (4) for purposes of a school police officer, the governing body  
 25       of a school corporation or the equivalent for a charter  
 26       school.

27       SECTION 8. IC 36-8-4.7-5, AS AMENDED BY P.L.238-2025,  
 28       SECTION 94, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 29       JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 5. (a) Notwithstanding any contrary law, an  
 30       appointing authority shall waive any age restriction for a person not  
 31       more than forty (40) years and six (6) months of age that applies to the  
 32       appointment and hiring of an individual as:

33       (1) a member of the police department; or  
 34       (2) a member of the fire department; or  
 35       (3) a school resource officer (as defined in IC 36-8-8-2.2);  
 36       if the individual meets the requirements of subsection (b).

37       (b) An individual who meets all the following requirements is  
 38       entitled to the waiver described in subsection (a):

39       (1) On the date the individual applies to be appointed and hired  
 40       as:  
 41       (A) a member of the police department; or  
 42       (B) a member of the fire department; or



(C) a school resource officer (as defined in IC 36-8-8-2.2);  
the individual is a veteran who has completed at least twenty (20) years of military service.

(2) The individual received or is eligible to receive a discharge from the armed forces of the United States under conditions other than conditions set forth in IC 10-17-12-7.5(2).

(3) The individual meets all other requirements for appointment and hiring as:

(A) a member of the police department; or  
(B) a member of the fire department; or  
(C) a school resource officer (as defined in IC 36-8-8-2.2);  
including all physical requirements.

(c) An individual who is entitled to the waiver described in subsection (a) is eligible to become a member of the 1977 fund.

SECTION 9. IC 36-8-8-2.1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.135-2024, SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2.1. (a) As used in this chapter, "local board" means the following:

(1) For a unit that established a 1925 fund for its police officers, the local board described in IC 36-8-6-2.

(2) For a unit that established a 1937 fund for its firefighters, the local board described in IC 36-8-7-3.

(3) For a consolidated city that established a 1953 fund for its police officers, the local board described in IC 36-8-7.5-2.

(4) For a unit, other than a consolidated city, that did not establish a 1925 fund for its police officers or a 1937 fund for its firefighters, the local board described in subsection (b) or (c).

(5) For an airport authority, the board of an airport authority.

(6) For a school resource officer, the local board described in subdivisions (1) through (4) that manages the fund established in the unit or the consolidated city in which the:

(A) territory of the school corporation; or

(B) charter school;

is located. However, if more than one (1) local board is applicable under this subdivision, the governing body of the school corporation or the equivalent authority for the charter school that employs or contracts to employ the school resource officer may choose the applicable local board with respect to the school resource officer.

(7) For a school corporation police department established

2026

IN 1188—LS 6774/DI 153



**DOCUMENT HAS NOT BEEN CHECKED FOR ACCURACY**

1                   under IC 20-26-16, a local board designated under section 25  
 2                   of this chapter.

3                   (b) If a unit did not establish a 1925 fund for its police officers, a  
 4                   local board shall be composed in the same manner described in  
 5                   IC 36-8-6-2(b). However, if there is not a retired member of the  
 6                   department, no one shall be appointed to that position until such time  
 7                   as there is a retired member.

8                   (c) If a unit did not establish a 1937 fund for its firefighters, a local  
 9                   board shall be composed in the same manner described in  
 10                   IC 36-8-7-3(b). However, if there is not a retired member of the  
 11                   department, no one shall be appointed to that position until such time  
 12                   as there is a retired member.

13                   SECTION 10. IC 36-8-8-2.2, AS ADDED BY P.L.135-2024,  
 14                   SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 15                   JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 2.2. As used in this chapter, "school resource  
 16                   officer" has the meaning means a law enforcement officer:

- 17                   (1) with sworn authority;
- 18                   (2) who is trained in school based law enforcement and crisis  
 19                   response;
- 20                   (3) who is assigned by a law enforcement agency to work  
 21                   collaboratively with one (1) or more schools; and
- 22                   (4) who has satisfied the training requirements set forth in  
 23                   IC 20-26-18.2-1.

24                   The term does not include a law enforcement officer employed by  
 25                   a school corporation police department established under  
 26                   IC 20-26-16.

27                   SECTION 11. IC 36-8-8-3, AS AMENDED BY P.L.135-2024,  
 28                   SECTION 10, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 29                   JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 3. (a) If a town establishes a board of metropolitan  
 30                   police commissioners, or if a town becomes a city, the municipality  
 31                   shall participate in the 1977 fund and shall enroll all full-time police  
 32                   officers and firefighters in the 1977 fund. However, if a police officer  
 33                   or former marshal is a member of the public employees' retirement  
 34                   fund, the police officer or former marshal may continue as a member  
 35                   of that fund instead of the 1977 fund. Notwithstanding the age  
 36                   requirements under section 7(a) of this chapter, a police officer or  
 37                   former marshal employed by a municipality at the time the  
 38                   municipality enters the 1977 fund under this section shall be a member  
 39                   of the 1977 fund unless the police officer or former marshal elects to  
 40                   continue as a member of the public employees' retirement fund. A  
 41                   person may become a member of the 1977 fund under this subsection  
 42                   without meeting the age limitation under section 7(a) of this chapter



1       only if the person satisfies:

2       (1) any aptitude, physical agility, or physical and mental  
 3       standards established by a local board under IC 36-8-3.2; and

4       (2) the minimum standards that are:

5           (A) adopted by the system board under section 19 of this  
 6           chapter; and

7           (B) in effect on the date the person becomes a member of  
 8           the 1977 fund.

9       Credit for prior service of a person who becomes a member of the 1977  
 10      fund under this subsection shall be determined under section 18 or 18.1

11      of this chapter. No service credit beyond that allowed under section 18  
 12      or 18.1 of this chapter may be recognized under the 1977 fund.

13       (b) If a unit did not establish a 1937 fund for its firefighters, the  
 14      unit may participate in the public employees' retirement fund or it may  
 15      participate in the 1977 fund. If a unit established a 1937 fund for its  
 16      firefighters, the unit is and shall remain a participant in the 1977 fund.

17       (c) A unit that:

18           (1) has not established a pension fund for its firefighters; or

19           (2) is participating in the public employees' retirement fund  
 20           under subsection (b);

21      may participate in the 1977 fund upon approval by the fiscal body,  
 22      notwithstanding IC 5-10.3-6-8. A unit that participates in the 1977 fund  
 23      under this subsection must comply with section 21 of this chapter.  
 24      However, if a police officer or firefighter is a member of the public  
 25      employees' retirement fund, the police officer or firefighter may  
 26      continue as a member of that fund instead of the 1977 fund.

27       (d) If a unit that participates in the 1977 fund provides longevity  
 28      increases, the amount of the longevity increase provided in a year must  
 29      be greater than or equal to the amount of the longevity increase  
 30      provided in the previous year.

31       (e) An airport authority may participate in the 1977 fund. An  
 32      airport authority that participates in the 1977 fund under this subsection  
 33      must comply with section 21 of this chapter. However, if a police  
 34      officer or firefighter is a member of the public employees' retirement  
 35      fund, the police officer or firefighter may continue as a member of that  
 36      fund instead of the 1977 fund.

37       (f) A school corporation or charter school that:

38           (1) employs a school resource officer; or

39           (2) enters into a contract or memorandum of understanding with  
 40           a local law enforcement agency to employ a school resource  
 41           officer;

42           (A) local law enforcement agency;



(B) private entity; or  
(C) nonprofit corporation;  
to employ a school resource officer;  
may allow the school resource officer to participate in the 1977 fund.  
A school corporation or charter school that participates in the 1977  
fund employs a school resource officer under this subsection or  
subsection (g) must comply with section 21.5 of this chapter and must  
enter into a contract or memorandum of understanding with a  
local law enforcement agency for the purpose of complying with  
the reporting and payment requirements under sections 6 and 6.5  
of this chapter. However, if a school resource officer is a member of  
the public employees' retirement fund, the school resource officer may  
continue as a member of that fund instead of the 1977 fund.

(1) any aptitude, physical agility, or physical and mental standards established by a local board under IC 36-8-3.2; and

33 and **34** (2) the minimum standards that are:

34 (A) the minimum standards that are:  
35 (A) adopted by the system board under section 19 of this  
36 chapter; and

**Credit for prior service of a school police officer who becomes a member of the 1977 fund under this subsection shall be determined under section 18 or 18.1 of this chapter. No service credit beyond that allowed under section 18 or 18.1 of this chapter may be**



1                   **recognized under the 1977 fund.**

2                   SECTION 12. IC 36-8-8-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.102-2023,  
 3                   SECTION 9, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 4                   JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 7. (a) Subject to IC 36-8-4.7 and except as  
 5                   provided in subsections (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (k), (l), and (m), a police  
 6                   officer or a firefighter who:

7                   (1) is less than forty (40) years of age; and

8                   (2) passes the baseline statewide physical and mental  
 9                   examinations required under section 19 of this chapter;

10                   shall be a member of the 1977 fund and is not a member of the 1925  
 11                   fund, the 1937 fund, or the 1953 fund.

12                   (b) A police officer or firefighter with service before May 1, 1977,  
 13                   who is hired or rehired after April 30, 1977, may receive credit under  
 14                   this chapter for service as a police officer or firefighter prior to entry  
 15                   into the 1977 fund if the employer who rehires the police officer or  
 16                   firefighter chooses to contribute to the 1977 fund the amount necessary  
 17                   to amortize the police officer's or firefighter's prior service liability over  
 18                   a period of not more than thirty (30) years, the amount and the period  
 19                   to be determined by the system board. If the employer chooses to make  
 20                   the contributions, the police officer or firefighter is entitled to receive  
 21                   credit for the police officer's or firefighter's prior years of service  
 22                   without making contributions to the 1977 fund for that prior service. In  
 23                   no event may a police officer or firefighter receive credit for prior years  
 24                   of service if the police officer or firefighter is receiving a benefit or is  
 25                   entitled to receive a benefit in the future from any other public pension  
 26                   plan with respect to the prior years of service.

27                   (c) Except as provided in section 18 of this chapter, a police  
 28                   officer or firefighter is entitled to credit for all years of service after  
 29                   April 30, 1977, with the police or fire department of an employer  
 30                   covered by this chapter.

31                   (d) A police officer or firefighter with twenty (20) years of service  
 32                   does not become a member of the 1977 fund and is not covered by this  
 33                   chapter, if the police officer or firefighter:

34                   (1) was hired before May 1, 1977;

35                   (2) did not convert under IC 19-1-17.8-7 or IC 19-1-36.5-7 (both  
 36                   of which were repealed September 1, 1981); and

37                   (3) is rehired after April 30, 1977, by the same employer.

38                   (e) A police officer or firefighter does not become a member of the  
 39                   1977 fund and is not covered by this chapter if the police officer or  
 40                   firefighter:

41                   (1) was hired before May 1, 1977;

42                   (2) did not convert under IC 19-1-17.8-7 or IC 19-1-36.5-7 (both



of which were repealed September 1, 1981);  
(3) was rehired after April 30, 1977, but before February 1,  
1979; and  
(4) was made, before February 1, 1979, a member of a 1925,  
1937, or 1953 fund.

(f) A police officer or firefighter does not become a member of the 1977 fund and is not covered by this chapter if the police officer or firefighter:

- (1) was hired by the police or fire department of a unit before May 1, 1977;
- (2) did not convert under IC 19-1-17.8-7 or IC 19-1-36.5-7 (both of which were repealed September 1, 1981);
- (3) is rehired by the police or fire department of another unit after December 31, 1981; and
- (4) is made, by the fiscal body of the other unit after December 31, 1981, a member of a 1925, 1937, or 1953 fund of the other unit.

If the police officer or firefighter is made a member of a 1925, 1937, or 1953 fund, the police officer or firefighter is entitled to receive credit for all the police officer's or firefighter's years of service, including years before January 1, 1982.

(g) As used in this subsection, "emergency medical services" and "emergency medical technician" have the meanings set forth in IC 16-18-2-110 and IC 16-18-2-112. A firefighter who:

(1) is employed by a unit that is participating in the 1977 fund;  
(2) was employed as an emergency medical technician by a  
political subdivision wholly or partially within the department's  
jurisdiction;

(3) was a member of the public employees' retirement fund during the employment described in subdivision (2); and  
(4) ceased employment with the political subdivision and was hired by the unit's fire department due to the reorganization of emergency medical services within the department's jurisdiction;

Emergency medical services within the department's jurisdiction, shall participate in the 1977 fund. A firefighter who participates in the 1977 fund under this subsection is subject to sections 18 and 21 of this chapter.

Chapter:  
(h) A police officer or firefighter does not become a member of the 1977 fund and is not covered by this chapter if the individual was appointed as:

(1) a fire chief under a waiver under JC 36-8-4-6(c); or

(1) a fire chief under a waiver under IC 36-8-4-6(c), or  
(2) a police chief under a waiver under IC 36-8-4-6.5(c);

unless the executive of the unit requests that the 1977 fund accept the



1       individual in the 1977 fund and the individual previously was a  
 2       member of the 1977 fund.

3       (i) A police matron hired or rehired after April 30, 1977, and  
 4       before July 1, 1996, who is a member of a police department in a  
 5       second or third class city on March 31, 1996, is a member of the 1977  
 6       fund.

7       (i) A park ranger who:

8           (1) completed at least the number of weeks of training at the  
 9           Indiana law enforcement academy or a comparable law  
 10          enforcement academy in another state that were required at the  
 11          time the park ranger attended the Indiana law enforcement  
 12          academy or the law enforcement academy in another state;  
 13          (2) graduated from the Indiana law enforcement academy or a  
 14          comparable law enforcement academy in another state; and  
 15          (3) is employed by the parks department of a city having a  
 16          population of more than one hundred ten thousand (110,000) and  
 17          less than one hundred fifty thousand (150,000);

18       is a member of the fund.

19       (k) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a police  
 20          officer or firefighter:

21           (1) who is a member of the 1977 fund before a consolidation  
 22          under IC 36-3-1-5.1 or IC 36-3-1-6.1;  
 23           (2) whose employer is consolidated into the consolidated law  
 24          enforcement department or the fire department of a consolidated  
 25          city under IC 36-3-1-5.1 or IC 36-3-1-6.1; and  
 26           (3) who, after the consolidation, becomes an employee of the  
 27          consolidated law enforcement department or the consolidated  
 28          fire department under IC 36-3-1-5.1 or IC 36-3-1-6.1;

29       is a member of the 1977 fund without meeting the requirements under  
 30          sections 19 and 21 of this chapter.

31       (l) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, if:

32           (1) before a consolidation under IC 8-22-3-11.6, a police officer  
 33          or firefighter provides law enforcement services or fire  
 34          protection services for an entity in a consolidated city;  
 35           (2) the provision of those services is consolidated into the law  
 36          enforcement department or fire department of a consolidated  
 37          city; and  
 38           (3) after the consolidation, the police officer or firefighter  
 39          becomes an employee of the consolidated law enforcement  
 40          department or the consolidated fire department under  
 41          IC 8-22-3-11.6;

42       the police officer or firefighter is a member of the 1977 fund without



1        meeting the requirements under sections 19 and 21 of this chapter.

2        (m) A police officer or firefighter who is a member of the 1977  

3        fund under subsection (k) or (l) may not be:

4        (1) retired for purposes of section 10 of this chapter; or

5        (2) disabled for purposes of section 12 of this chapter;

6        solely because of a change in employer under the consolidation.

7        (n) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter and subject  

8        to subsection (o), a police officer, **school resource officer**, or  

9        firefighter who:

10        (1) is an active member of the 1977 fund with an employer that  

11        participates in the 1977 fund;

12        (2) separates from that employer; and

13        (3) not later than one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of  

14        the separation described in subdivision (2), becomes employed  

15        as a full-time police officer, **school resource officer**, or  

16        firefighter with the same or a second employer that participates  

17        in the 1977 fund;

18        is a member of the 1977 fund without meeting for a second time the  

19        age limitation under subsection (a) and the requirements under sections  

20        19 and 21 of this chapter. A police officer, **school resource officer**, or  

21        firefighter to whom this subsection applies is entitled to receive credit  

22        for all years of 1977 fund covered service as a police officer, **school**  

23        **resource officer**, or firefighter with all employers that participate in  

24        the 1977 fund.

25        (o) The one hundred eighty (180) day limitation described in  

26        subsection (n)(3) does not apply to a member of the 1977 fund who is  

27        eligible for reinstatement under IC 36-8-4-11.

28        (p) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a veteran  

29        who is:

30        (1) described in IC 36-8-4.7; and

31        (2) employed as a firefighter, **or** police officer, **or** **school**  

32        **resource officer**;

33        is a member of the 1977 fund.

34        (q) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter and except  

35        as provided in subsection (o), a police officer, **school resource officer**,  

36        or firefighter who:

37        (1) is an active member of the 1977 fund with an employer that  

38        participates in the 1977 fund;

39        (2) separates from that employer; and

40        (3) more than one hundred eighty (180) days after the date of the  

41        separation described in subdivision (2), becomes employed as a  

42        full-time police officer, **school resource officer**, or firefighter



1                   with the same or a second employer that participates in the 1977  
 2                   fund;  
 3                   is a member of the 1977 fund without meeting the age limitation under  
 4                   subsection (a) provided the member can accrue twenty (20) years of  
 5                   service credit in the 1977 fund by the time the **police officer, school**  
 6                   **resource officer, or firefighter** becomes sixty (60) years of age. A  
 7                   police officer, **school resource officer**, or firefighter who participates  
 8                   in the 1977 fund under this subsection must pass the baseline statewide  
 9                   physical and mental examination under section 19 of this chapter. A  
 10                  police officer, **school resource officer**, or firefighter to whom this  
 11                  subsection applies is entitled to receive credit for all years of 1977 fund  
 12                  covered service as a police officer, **school resource officer**, or  
 13                  firefighter with all employers that participate in the 1977 fund.

14                  SECTION 13. IC 36-8-8-21.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.135-2024,  
 15                  SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
 16                  JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 21.5. (a) This section applies to a school resource  
 17                  officer that becomes or remains a member of the 1977 fund under  
 18                  section 3(f) or 3(g) of this chapter.

19                  (b) A school resource officer is a member of the 1977 fund if the  
 20                  school resource officer:

21                  (1) **subject to IC 36-8-4.7-5**, meets the age limitation under  
 22                  section 7(a) of this chapter;  
 23                  (2) passes the baseline statewide physical and mental  
 24                  examinations required under section 19 of this chapter; and  
 25                  (3) meets the training requirements under IC 20-26-18.2-1.

26                  (c) Credit for prior service of a school resource officer who  
 27                  becomes a member of the 1977 fund under this section shall be  
 28                  determined under section 18 or 18.1 of this chapter. No service credit  
 29                  beyond that allowed under section 18 or 18.1 of this chapter may be  
 30                  recognized under the 1977 fund.

31                  SECTION 14. IC 36-8-8-25 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
 32                  CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
 33                  [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026]: Sec. 25. (a) This section applies to a  
 34                  school corporation police department established under  
 35                  IC 20-26-16.

36                  (b) The governing body of one (1) or more school corporations,  
 37                  or the equivalent for a charter school, may designate either of the  
 38                  following as the local board for a school corporation police  
 39                  department:

40                  (1) **A local board described in section 2.1(a)(1), 2.1(a)(3), or**  
 41                  **2.1(a)(4) of this chapter.**  
 42                  (2) **A board of trustees established under subsection (c).**



(c) If the governing body of one (1) or more school corporations, or the equivalent for a charter school, designates a board of trustees under subsection (b)(2) to serve as the local board, the following apply:

**(1) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, the board of trustees must consist of at least seven (7) but not more than nine (9) trustees, as follows:**

(A) A school superintendent or the school superintendent's designee, a school fiscal officer or the school fiscal officer's designee, and a police chief of a participating school police department, who are ex officio voting members of the board of trustees.

**(B) One (1) retired member of a participating school police department. However, if there is not a retired member of a participating school police department, no one shall be appointed under this subdivision until such time as there is a retired member.**

**(C) At least three (3) but not more than five (5) active members of a participating police department.**

However, for a board of trustees established under this subsection where there are not sufficient members of a school police department to appoint a local board of trustees under this subsection consisting of at least five (5) trustees, the local board of trustees appointed under this subsection may be composed of three (3) trustees, those being the superintendent or the superintendent's designee, the school fiscal officer or the school fiscal officer's designee, and the school police department chief. The trustees are selected in a manner prescribed by the governing body for a school corporation or the equivalent for a charter school. If the board of trustees will manage two (2) or more school police departments, the members shall be selected in a manner agreed upon by the participating school corporations or charter schools. The trustees shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

**(2) A majority of all the trustees constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.**

### **(3) The trustees receive no pay for their services.**

**(4) The board of trustees may make all necessary bylaws for:**

#### **(A) meetings of the trustees;**

**(B) all matters connected with the care, preservation,**

### **and disbursement of the fund; and**



1                   (C) all other matters connected with the proper  
2                   execution of this chapter.

3                   (5) For purposes of IC 36-8-6-3, the school superintendent or  
4                   the school superintendent's designee described in subdivision  
5                   (1)(A) is considered the president, and the school fiscal  
6                   officer or the school fiscal officer's designee described in  
7                   subdivision (1)(A) is considered the treasurer.

8                   1

M

a

r

k

u

p

2026

IN 1188—LS 6774/DI 153



DOCUMENT HAS NOT BEEN CHECKED FOR ACCURACY