Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly 2019 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE First Reader

Senate Bill 913 Budget and Taxation (Senator Beidle)

State Retirement and Pension System - Administration - Retiree Information for Direct Mailings

This bill allows specified retiree organizations to request mailing addresses of State retirees from the State Retirement Agency (SRA) to assist in making direct mailings to retirees of the State Retirement and Pension Systems (SRPS) two times per year at any time, instead of only in April and October of each year. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2019.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. SRA can handle the bill's requirements with existing budgeted resources. No effect on revenues.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Chapter 714 of 2010 required, for one year, the Board of Trustees of SRPS to provide mailing addresses for State retirees to a mail processing center to provide direct mailings on behalf of the Maryland Retired School Personnel Association (MRSPA). MRSPA could only request the mailing addresses for mailings in April and October. The mailings could not be for the purpose of opposing or supporting a political party, ballot measure, or candidate for election. Instead, they were to provide retirees with information that explained the services offered by MRSPA. The board was required to provide the requested data only to a mail processing center under a secure data share agreement in which neither the mail processing center nor MRSPA had access to any names or addresses.

MRSPA had to cover the full cost of providing the data and sending the mailings. Under the Act, SRA did not have to notify retirees before it provided information about them to a public employee organization.

Chapters 431 and 432 of 2011 repealed the one-year limitation on the requirement and, beginning July 1, 2012, required SRPS to provide the same service to any organization in which State retirees participate and that has as one of its primary purposes representing or providing services to State retirees. Chapters 431 and 432 retained the requirement that requests for mailing addresses by retiree organizations be made only in April and October.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): State Retirement Agency; Department of Legislative Services

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