### AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS 2024 REGULAR SESSION

### WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, EMAIL ANALYSIS TO:

LFC@NMLEGIS.GOV

#### and

DFA@STATE.NM.US

#### **SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

) Original Correction		X	Date Prepared: Bill No:	2024-02-03 HB236cs
Sponsor(s)	HLVMC		Agency Name and Code Number: Person Writing Analysis:	CYFD 69000
	PUBLIC SAFETY RETIREES RETUR TO WORK, cs	RNING	Phone: Email:	

### **SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**

# **<u>APPROPRIATION</u>** (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring	Fund	
FY24	FY25	or Nonrecurring	Affected	

### **<u>REVENUE</u>** (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring	Fund	
FY24	FY25	FY26	or Nonrecurring	Affected	

# ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATION BUDGET (dollars in thousands)

	FY24	FY25	FY26	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total						

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to: Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act:

# **SECTION III: NARRATIVE**

# **BILL SUMMARY**

House Labor, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee Substitute for HB 236 amends the Public Employees Retirement Act to allow retired public safety employees, specifically, retired adult correction officers, adult detention officers, juvenile correction officers, juvenile detention officers, municipal police officers, sheriff's deputy, state police officers, Courthouse Security Officers, Emergency medical paramedics/dispatchers/technicians, firefighters, and public safety telecommunications employees to return to work to resume employment with a PERA-covered employer without the need to suspend their retirement benefits. The bill includes the following conditions:

\* The retired prospective employee must be retired for at least 90 days before being eligible to seek employment with a PERA-covered employer.

\* The retired employee and PERA-covered employer must make nonrefundable contributions to the PERA fund.

\* The retired employee would not accrue services credit during their term of reemployment.

\* The retired member shall have retired prior to December 31, 2023.

\* The retired member shall have no limitation on the length of time that the retired member can be subsequently employed or reemployed by an affiliated public employer; provided that the retired member shall only receive up to thirty-six consecutive months of pension payments while reemployed.

\* The retired member shall not be hired for reemployment into an employment position with a vacancy rate that is lower than ten percent at the time of

the retired member's hiring and subsequent employment begins prior to July 1, 2027.

# FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None for CYFD.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

None for CYFD.

## PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

The rehire of retiree juvenile correctional officers will help maintain a steady and stable

workforce that includes having seasoned officers performing the day-to-day duties. Reduced vacancy rates will also help workforce morale.

### ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None for CYFD.

## **CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP** Same as HB 236

**TECHNICAL ISSUES** 

None for CYFD.

### **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

CYFD anticipates HB236 could decrease persistently high vacancy rates of juvenile correctional officers by allowing retired personnel to return to work. In addition, the returning retirees would have the experience of that position resulting in a benefit for the agency and the client. Importantly, these retired employees would be able to perform job duties well in advance of a new hire, who would need to undergo six months of training prior to job duty assignments.

#### ALTERNATIVES

None.

### WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

The difficulty in recruiting for these critical positions and understaffing will continue to be an issue for CYFD.

## AMENDMENTS

CYFD requests consideration of adding Protective Services direct services field staff (i.e. investigators, permanency, placement, IHS, SCI, etc) and Juvenile Probation Officers to the list of eligible retired employees due to persistent vacancy rates among this specific workforce and need for social workers in the child welfare field.