

HOUSE BILL 446

K4

9lr1200
CF 9lr1201

By: **Delegate Griffith (Chair, Joint Committee on Pensions) and Delegates Aumann, Bates, Branch, Conway, Haynes, Heller, James, Levi, and Levy**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2009

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Retirement and Pension System – Board of Trustees – Attendance and**
3 **Educational Training**

4 FOR the purpose of providing additional exceptions for excused absences from certain
5 meetings for members of the Board of Trustees of the State Retirement and
6 Pension System; altering the limitation on the location where the Board of
7 Trustees may meet for certain training; removing certain limitations regarding
8 certain entities who may conduct certain training for the Board of Trustees; and
9 generally relating to trustee attendance and educational training for members
10 of the Board of Trustees.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – State Personnel and Pensions
13 Section 21–104(e) and 21–108(a)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2004 Replacement Volume and 2008 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – State Personnel and Pensions**

19 21–104.

20 (e) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, each trustee
21 shall attend at least 80% of the monthly Board of Trustees meetings held during a
22 1–year period beginning January 1.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (2) (i) A trustee may be granted an excused absence by the
2 chairman of the Board or another officer of the Board due [to illness or family
3 emergencies] **TO:**

4 **1. ILLNESS;**

5 **2. FAMILY EMERGENCIES;**

6 **3. JURY DUTY; OR**

7 **4. ATTENDANCE AT INVESTMENT OR FIDUCIARY**
8 **TRAINING.**

9 (ii) An excused absence under this paragraph may not be
10 considered an absence for the purposes of paragraph (1) of this subsection.

11 (3) (i) Any elected or Governor-appointed trustee that fails to
12 attend at least 80% of the meetings, not including excused absences under paragraph
13 (2) of this subsection, shall be removed from the Board of Trustees by the Governor.

14 (ii) The Governor shall fill the vacancy for the office of the
15 trustee for the unexpired term in the same manner as the office was previously filled.

16 (iii) The State Retirement Agency shall submit a trustee
17 attendance report to the Department of Legislative Services by June 30 and December
18 31 of each year.

19 21–108.

20 (a) (1) The responsibility for the management, general administration,
21 and proper operation of the several systems is vested in the Board of Trustees.

22 (2) The Board of Trustees is not responsible for:

23 (i) reviewing the benefit structures for any of the several
24 systems, except for the purpose of making technical corrections; or

25 (ii) considering benefit enhancements for any of the several
26 systems.

27 (3) (i) Each trustee on the Board of Trustees is required to
28 complete at least 8 hours of investment and fiduciary training, including training on
29 fiduciary conduct and board governance, during a 1–year period beginning January 1.

30 (ii) The training shall be conducted at a facility located [in the
31 State by an entity not affiliated with any of the external investment managers for the
32 several systems] **WITHIN THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES.**

1 (iii) On or before June 30 and December 31 of each year, the
2 State Retirement Agency shall submit a report to the Department of Legislative
3 Services that provides a summary of the training required by this paragraph that was
4 completed by each trustee during that 6-month period.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 July 1, 2009.