Dear Senators PATRICK, Martin, Schmidt, and Representatives HARTGEN, Anderson, King:

The Legislative Services Office, Research and Legislation, has received the enclosed rules of the PERSI (Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho):

IDAPA 59.02.01 - Rules for the Judges' Retirement Fund - Proposed Rule (Docket No. 59-0201-1602).

Pursuant to Section 67-454, Idaho Code, a meeting on the enclosed rules may be called by the cochairmen or by two (2) or more members of the subcommittee giving oral or written notice to Research and Legislation no later than fourteen (14) days after receipt of the rules' analysis from Legislative Services. The final date to call a meeting on the enclosed rules is no later than 05/25/2016. If a meeting is called, the subcommittee must hold the meeting within forty-two (42) days of receipt of the rules' analysis from Legislative Services. The final date to hold a meeting on the enclosed rules is 06/23/2016.

The germane joint subcommittee may request a statement of economic impact with respect to a proposed rule by notifying Research and Legislation. There is no time limit on requesting this statement, and it may be requested whether or not a meeting on the proposed rule is called or after a meeting has been held.

To notify Research and Legislation, call 334-4834, or send a written request to the address on the memorandum attached below.
MEMORANDUM

TO: Rules Review Subcommittee of the Senate Commerce & Human Resources Committee and the House Commerce & Human Resources Committee
FROM: Principal Legislative Research Analyst - Ryan Bush
DATE: May 6, 2016
SUBJECT: PERSI (Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho)

IDAPA 59.02.01 - Rules for the Judges' Retirement Fund - Proposed Rule (Docket No. 59-0201-1602)

The Board of the Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho (PERSI) submits notice of proposed rule-making at IDAPA 59.02.01 - Rules for the Judges' Retirement Fund. This rulemaking would provide that any combined benefits of a member who participates in two or more qualified defined benefit plans may not exceed the maximum permissible benefit described by rule. The Board states that this limit for 2016 is $210,000. The Board further states that this proposed rule is being made pursuant to a requirement of the IRS.

The Board states that negotiated rulemaking was not conducted because it has exclusive fiduciary responsibility for plan operations. There is no fiscal impact associated with this rulemaking.

The proposed rule appears to be within the statutory authority granted to the Board in Section 1-2012, Idaho Code.

cc: PERSI (Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho)
   Don Drum
AUTHORIZED: In compliance with Section 67-5221(1), Idaho Code, notice is hereby given that this agency has initiated proposed rulemaking procedures. The action is authorized pursuant to Section 1-2012, Idaho Code.

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULE: Public hearing(s) concerning this rulemaking will be scheduled if requested in writing by twenty-five (25) persons, a political subdivision, or an agency, not later than May 18, 2016.

The hearing site(s) will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Requests for accommodation must be made not later than five (5) days prior to the hearing, to the agency address below.

DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY: The following is a nontechnical explanation of the substance and purpose of the proposed rulemaking:

Add new subsection 05. to rule 101 to make clear that the IRC section 415 limitation on benefits applies to the combined benefits from all plans if a member participates in two or more qualified defined benefit plans maintained by the employer (or a predecessor employer). This change is being made pursuant to requirement of the IRS pursuant to the receipt of the determination letter received in December of 2015. The current section 415(b) limit (for 2016) is $210,000.

FEE SUMMARY: The following is a specific description of the fee or charge imposed or increased: None.

FISCAL IMPACT: The following is a specific description, if applicable, of any negative fiscal impact on the state general fund greater than ten thousand dollars ($10,000) during the fiscal year resulting from this rulemaking: NA

NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING: Pursuant to IDAPA 04.11.01.811, negotiated rulemaking was not conducted because it would be inconsistent with the Retirement Board’s exclusive fiduciary responsibility for plan operations.

ASSISTANCE ON TECHNICAL QUESTIONS, SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS: For assistance on technical questions concerning the proposed rule, contact Joanna L. Guilfoy, Deputy Attorney General, PERSI, (208) 287-9271.

Anyone may submit written comments regarding this proposed rulemaking. All written comments must be directed to the undersigned and must be delivered on or before May 25, 2016.

DATED this 15th Day of March, 2016.

Don Drum
Executive Director
Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho
607 N. 8th Street, Boise, ID 83702
P.O. Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0078
Phone: (208) 287-9230
Fax: (208) 334-3408
101. **MAXIMUM LIMITATIONS ON BENEFITS (RULE 101).**

Beginning effective January 1, 2002, the “defined benefit dollar limitation” is one hundred sixty thousand dollars ($160,000), as adjusted, effective January 1 of each year thereafter, under section 415(d) of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe, and payable in the form of a straight life annuity. A limitation as adjusted under section 415(d) will apply to limitation years ending with or within the calendar year for which the adjustment applies. The “maximum permissible benefit” is the defined benefit dollar limitation (adjusted where required, as provided in Subsection 101.01 and, if applicable, in Subsections 101.02 through 101.04).

01. **Less Than Ten Years of Service.** If the Member has fewer than ten (10) years of participation in the Judges' Retirement Fund, the defined benefit dollar limitation shall be multiplied by a fraction:

   a. The numerator of which is the number of years (or part thereof) of participation in the Judges' Retirement Fund; and

   b. The denominator of which is ten (10).

02. **Benefit Begins Prior to Age Sixty-Two.** If the benefit of a Member begins prior to age sixty-two (62), the defined benefit dollar limitation applicable to the Member at such earlier age is an annual benefit payable in the form of a straight life annuity beginning at the earlier age that is the actuarial equivalent of the defined benefit dollar limitation applicable to the Member at age sixty-two (62) (adjusted under Rule 101.01, if required). The defined benefit dollar limitation applicable at an age prior to age sixty-two (62) is determined as set forth in IRS regulation under section 415(b)(2) of the Code.

03. **Benefit Begins at Age Sixty-Five.** If the benefit of a Member begins after the Member attains age sixty-five (65), the defined benefit dollar limitation applicable to the Member at the later age is the annual benefit payable in the form of a straight life annuity beginning at the later age that is actuarially equivalent to the defined benefit dollar limitation applicable to the Member at age sixty-five (65) (adjusted under Rule 101.01, if required). The actuarial equivalent of the defined benefit dollar limitation applicable at an age after age sixty-five (65) is determined as set forth in IRS regulation under section 415(b)(2) of the Code.

04. **Transition.** Benefit increases resulting from the increase in the limitations of section 415(b) of the Code shall be provided to all current and former Members (with benefits limited by section 415(b)) who have an accrued benefit under the Judges' Retirement Fund immediately prior to the effective date of this Rule (other than an accrued benefit resulting from a benefit increase solely as a result of the increases in limitations under section 415(b)).

05. **Aggregation.** If any member participates in two (2) or more qualified defined benefit plans maintained by the employer (or a predecessor employer), the combined benefits from all such plans may not exceed the “maximum permissible benefit” described in this Rule 101.