

**DETROIT CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION**

**PROPOSAL/ISSUE REVIEW SUMMARY**

**ISSUE NUMBER:** BF 15

**ISSUE CATEGORY:** Budget & Finance

**SOURCE:** Donald Taylor, Retired Detroit

**RELATED CHARTER SECTIONS:** §11-103 (H) (*Principals Applicable in*

*Police & Firefighters Assn.*

*Administering Plans*)

Letter 10/12/10

**RELEVANT ORDINANCE SECTION:**

**RELEVANT LAW(S):**

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**ISSUE/PROPOSAL STATEMENT:** Maintain language under Art. 11 requiring Retirant participation on Board of Trustees Of Retirement Systems. Amend to allow two retirants (one elected by retired police [all ranks] and one by retired firefighters[all ranks]) who do not have to be city residents.

**RATIONALE:** “In support of these proposals; we would submit that the citizens of Detroit in the 1997 City Charter overwhelming called for a Retirant member to serve on the police and fire retirement system board of trustees. Although this section of the 1997 Charter was never enforced, it was the will of the people that a Retirant serve on the Board.

“In reviewing the 2009 Police & Fire Retirement System, Annual Report of the Board of Trustees, you will find that over seventy percent (70%) of the currents [sic] fund in the system are there on behalf of current retirees. So under equal protection an basic fairness, the fact that the overwhelming majority of the funds are in the system on behalf of current retirees, they deserve to have a voice in the operation of the system.

“The Citizens of Detroit require and deserve accountability of the Retirement Systems. There is no one that will hold the Board of Trustees more accountable that [sic] those whose livelihood depend[s] on the system.

“Retirant members’ serving on their retirement boards throughout Michigan and across the country is the norm, not the exception. Retired members of the Detroit Police Department and Detroit Fire Department deserve no less. We ask for your consideration of these proposals.” *October 12, 2010 Letter from Donald Taylor, President Retired Detroit & Fire Fighters Association*

**ANALYSIS:** See legal opinion regarding PERA and Pension/Retirement systems.

**DISPOSITION/COMMISION ACTION:**

**NOTES:**