



2009 SENATE BILL 477

January 22, 2010 – Introduced by Senators TAYLOR, DARLING, SULLIVAN and COGGS, cosponsored by Representatives FIELDS, BALLWEG, CULLEN, GOTTLIEB, KESTELL, SINICKI, TOLES, ZEPNICK and PASCH. Referred to Committee on Ethics Reform and Government Operations.

- 1 **AN ACT** *to create* 62.63 (5) of the statutes; **relating to:** treatment of abandoned
2 employee retirement accounts under a retirement system of a 1st class city.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act, all intangible property held by a governmental subdivision or agency that remains unclaimed for more than a year after it becomes payable or distributable is presumed abandoned. Once intangible property is presumed abandoned, it is subject to the custody of the state as unclaimed property. This bill provides that funds held in employee accounts of a retirement system of a 1st class city, which become abandoned, are not subject to the custody of the state as unclaimed property, but may be retained by the retirement system for purposes of reducing employer funding obligations to the retirement system. (Currently, the only retirement system of a 1st class city is the City of Milwaukee Employees' Retirement System.) The bill specifically authorizes the board of any retirement system of a 1st class city to devise rules and regulations for determining the conditions under which employee retirement accounts are presumed abandoned and for determining the manner in which funds in the abandoned employee retirement accounts may be used to reduce employer funding obligations to the retirement system.

Because this bill relates to public employee retirement or pensions, it may be referred to the Joint Survey Committee on Retirement Systems for a report to be printed as an appendix to the bill.

