

By: Bucy

H.B. No. 28

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to a cost-of-living adjustment applicable to certain  
3 benefits paid by the Employees Retirement System of Texas and a  
4 biennial study on providing additional adjustments based on the  
5 effects of increased inflation.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

7 SECTION 1. Subchapter G, Chapter 814, Government Code, is  
8 amended by adding Section 814.605 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 814.605. ONE-TIME ADJUSTMENT TO BENEFITS. (a) The  
10 amount of a monthly service retirement benefit, disability  
11 retirement benefit, or death benefit paid under this chapter to a  
12 retiree or beneficiary for service credited in the employee class  
13 is increased to include a one-time 10 percent adjustment in  
14 accordance with this section.

15 (b) The board of trustees shall recompute the amount of a  
16 benefit paid monthly under this chapter by applying the 10 percent  
17 adjustment to the monthly amount otherwise required to be paid as  
18 determined in accordance with this chapter.

19 SECTION 2. Subchapter F, Chapter 815, Government Code, is  
20 amended by adding Section 815.5105 to read as follows:

21 Sec. 815.5105. BIENNIAL STUDY AND REPORT ON PROVIDING  
22 ADDITIONAL COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS BASED ON EFFECTS OF  
23 INFLATION. Not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year, the  
24 retirement system shall:

1           (1) conduct a study to evaluate and identify the  
2 effects, if any, that increased inflation has had on annuitants of  
3 the system:

4                   (A) during the preceding state fiscal biennium;  
5 and

6                   (B) if applicable, since annuitants last  
7 received a cost-of-living adjustment; and

8           (2) submit a written report to the legislature  
9 containing:

10                   (A) findings of the study; and

11                   (B) if appropriate, recommendations for  
12 potential legislation to address any adverse effects of inflation  
13 identified under Subdivision (1), including specific  
14 recommendations regarding whether and in what amount the  
15 legislature would need to provide a cost-of-living adjustment to  
16 the benefits of annuitants to remedy those effects.

17           SECTION 3. Section 814.604, Government Code, is repealed.

18           SECTION 4. Section 814.605, Government Code, as added by  
19 this Act, applies only to a monthly benefit payment made by the  
20 Employees Retirement System of Texas on or after October 1, 2023.

21           SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
22 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
23 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
24 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
25 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the  
26 legislative session.