

## MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Ways and Means Committee

From: Alan D. Conroy, Executive Director

Date: March 13, 2018

Subject: Substitute HB 2359; Kansas Cybersecurity Act

KPERS is supportive of efforts to improve the cybersecurity of the state's information technology system. We understand that not all executive branch agencies have the resources to focus on cybersecurity to the level that KPERS is able. While a centralized cybersecurity executive may work to increase the level of security at some agencies, we are concerned that it could have the opposite effect on KPERS' cybersecurity systems. Therefore, KPERS is requesting the Senate retain the current exemption for KPERS from the provisions of Substitute HB 2359.

Substitute HB 2359 creates the position of Chief Information Security Office (CISO) inside the Office of Information Technology Service (OITS). This position would be responsible for setting cybersecurity strategy and overseeing cybersecurity plans for all executive branch agencies, with the exception of the Board of Regents, Regents institutions, KPERS and the state-wide elected officials.

**Cybersecurity is a high priority for KPERS.** Given its fiduciary role, the KPERS Board of Trustees places a very high priority on cybersecurity, as reflected in its allocation of resources and expenditures for that purpose. As a result of KPERS' focus on cybersecurity, multiple Legislative Post Audit reviews of KPERS' security have found KPERS' cybersecurity to be exemplary among state agencies.

There may be concerns with KPERS being exempted from a centralized cybersecurity plan, specifically staying within the executive branch information technology system (KANWIN). KPERS has reviewed the options available and believes that it would be feasible for KPERS to move outside of KANWIN if that would be helpful. Thank you for your consideration.

