

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING AND PUBLIC RULE HEARING

The New Mexico Retiree Health Care Authority (NMRHCA) is considering amending the existing Rule 2.81.5.7 NMAC - DEFINITIONS. The purpose of the amendment of the rule is to amend the definition of "Salary" to reflect recent changes to the complement definition of salary under the Public Employees Retirement Act, NMSA 1978 Section 10-11-1 et seq. ("PERA Act"). A summary of the full text of the amendment and proposed rule follows:

The existing Rule 2.81.5.7 NMAC provides for a definition of salary for the purpose of calculating employee and employer contributions. The existing rule follows a definition provided under the PERA Act and excludes overtime from the definition. The PERA Act was amended in the most recent legislative session to include overtime. The amendment changes the definition of salary to refer to the amended definition of salary in the PERA Act. Thus, the proposed rule would follow any subsequent changes that the Legislature makes to the definition of salary in the PERA Act.

The NMRHCA is authorized to promulgate rules to implement the Retiree Health Care Act, NMSA 1978, Sections 10-7C-1 to -16 (1990, as amended through 2009) ("Act") by NMSA 1978, Section 10-7C-7 (1998). By resolution dated June 1, 2021, the NMRHCA resolved to undertake the rulemaking in conformity with the Act, the State Rules Act, NMSA 1978, Sections 14-4-1 to -11 (1967, as amended through 2017), the Default Procedural Rule for Rulemaking, 1.24.25 NMAC (4/10/2018) and the Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Sections 10-15-1 to -4 (1974, as amended through 2013).

The full text of the amendment and proposed rule may be obtained by contacting Neil Kueffer, Deputy Director, New Mexico Retiree Health Care Authority, 6300 Jefferson St. NE, Suite 150, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109; telephone 505-222-6408, to request a copy of the rule. The full text and this notice are also available on NMRHCA's website: <http://www.nmrhca.org/>.

A person may submit, by mail or electronic form, written comments on the amendment and proposed rule through the end of the public comment period, which ends September 23, 2021. Written comments should be submitted to Neil Kueffer, Deputy Director, New Mexico Retiree Health Care Authority, 6300 Jefferson St. NE, Suite 150, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109. Written comments also will be accepted by email: neil.kueffer@state.nm.us or by fax: (505) 884-8611. All written comments received by the agency will be posted on <http://www.nmrhca.org/> no more than 3 business days following receipt to allow for public review. Written comments will also be available for public inspection at New Mexico Retiree Health Care Authority, 6300 Jefferson St. NE, Suite 150, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87109.

A public rule hearing on the amendment and proposed rule will be held before Neil Kueffer, Deputy Director, NMRHCA, on September 24, 2021 from 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the NMRHCA Board Room, located at 6300 Jefferson St. NE, in Albuquerque, NM, 87109. Individuals may submit data, views or arguments orally or in writing to the amendment and proposed rule at the public rule hearing. Persons offering written comments at the hearing must have 2 copies for the hearing officer.

Any individual with a disability in need of an auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing, or who needs copies of the amendment and proposed rule in an accessible form may contact Neil Kueffer at 505-222-648 at least 10 days before the hearing.