

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## EHB 2776

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As Passed House  
February 12, 1994

**Title:** An act relating to exempting persons enrolled in state-approved apprenticeship programs from membership in the retirement system.

**Brief Description:** Exempting certain apprentices from the retirement system.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Sommers and Horn.

**Brief History:**

Reported by House Committee on:  
Appropriations, February 3, 1994, DPA;  
Passed House, February 12, 1994, 94-0.

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### HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

**Majority Report:** Do pass as amended. Signed by 25 members: Representatives Sommers, Chair; Valle, Vice Chair; Silver, Ranking Minority Member; Carlson, Assistant Ranking Minority Member; Appelwick; Ballasiotes; Basich; Cooke; Dellwo; Dorn; Dunshee; G. Fisher; Foreman; Jacobsen; Lemmon; Linville; H. Myers; Peery; Rust; Sehlin; Sheahan; Stevens; Talcott; Wang and Wolfe.

**Staff:** Jennifer Priddy (786-7118).

**Background:** All regularly-paid employees or officials of state, school district and local governments are members of a retirement system. RCW 41.40.023 lists specific exemptions of employees who may not become members of the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS). Currently, employees enrolled in the Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council program are eligible to enroll in PERS, and they make retirement contributions. Most of these employees are also members of a union retirement plan and are making contributions. Most of these employees will work in the private sector with union membership after their apprenticeship is complete.

**Summary of Bill:** This bill excludes employees enrolled in a state-approved apprenticeship program and employed by local governments from membership in PERS if the employee is a member of, and making contributions to, a union-sponsored

retirement plan or is a member of a Taft-Hartley retirement plan. These employees will then be exempt from making PERS contributions.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

**Testimony For:** Employees in an apprenticeship program are required to enroll in PERS even if they are also contributing to a union-sponsored retirement plan.

**Testimony Against:** None.

**Witnesses:** Bill Anderson (pro with amendment); and Ron Main (pro).