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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2896**

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**State of Washington**

**57th Legislature**

**2002 Regular Session**

**By** House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Cooper, Delvin, Conway, Campbell, Kirby, Hurst, Jackley, Sullivan, Chase, Darneille, Santos, Ogden, Quall, Morell, Simpson, Schual-Berke, Fromhold, McDermott and Romero)

Read first time 02/12/2002. Referred to Committee on .

1 AN ACT Relating to retirement benefits for emergency medical  
2 technicians; adding a new section to chapter 41.26 RCW; and providing  
3 an expiration date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 41.26 RCW  
6 under the subchapter heading "plan 2" to read as follows:

7 (1) An employee who is eligible for membership and was a member of  
8 the public employees' retirement system while employed providing  
9 emergency medical services for a city, town, county, or district and  
10 whose job was relocated from another department of a city, town,  
11 county, or district to a fire department has the following options:

12 (a) Remain a member of the public employees' retirement system; or

13 (b) Leave any service credit earned as a member of the public  
14 employees' retirement system in the public employees' retirement  
15 system, and have all future service earned in the law enforcement  
16 officers' and fire fighters' retirement system plan 2, becoming a dual  
17 member under the provisions of chapter 41.54 RCW; or

18 (c) Make an election, filed in writing with the department of  
19 retirement systems, to transfer service credit previously earned as an

1 emergency medical technician for a city, town, county, or district in  
2 the public employees' retirement system plan 2 to the law enforcement  
3 officers' and fire fighters' retirement system plan 2 as defined in RCW  
4 41.26.030.

5 (2)(a) A member who elects to transfer service credit under  
6 subsection (1)(c) of this section shall make the payments required by  
7 this subsection prior to having service credit earned as an emergency  
8 medical technician for a city, town, county, or district under the  
9 public employees' retirement system plan 2 transferred to the law  
10 enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system plan 2.

11 (b) A member who elects to transfer service credit under this  
12 subsection shall pay, for the applicable period of service, the  
13 difference between the contributions the employee paid to the public  
14 employees' retirement system plan 2 and the contributions that would  
15 have been paid by the employee had the employee been a member of the  
16 law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system plan 2,  
17 plus interest on this difference as determined by the director. This  
18 payment must be made no later than five years from the effective date  
19 of the election made under subsection (1)(b) of this section or the  
20 date of retirement, whichever comes first.

21 (c) For the applicable period of service, the employer shall pay an  
22 amount sufficient to ensure that the contribution level to the law  
23 enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system will not  
24 increase due to this transfer. This payment must be made within five  
25 years of the completion of the employee payment in (b) of this  
26 subsection.

27 (d) Upon completion of the payment required in (b) of this  
28 subsection, the department shall transfer from the public employees'  
29 retirement system plan 2 to the law enforcement officers' and fire  
30 fighters' retirement system plan 2: (i) All of the employee's  
31 applicable accumulated contributions plus interest and an equal amount  
32 of employer contributions; and (ii) all applicable months of service,  
33 as defined in RCW 41.26.030(14)(b), credited to the employee under this  
34 chapter for service as an emergency services provider for a city, town,  
35 county, or district as though that service was rendered as a member of  
36 the law enforcement officers' and fire fighters' retirement system plan  
37 2.

38 (e) Upon transfer of service credit, contributions, and interest  
39 under this subsection, the employee is permanently excluded from

1 membership in the public employees' retirement system plan 2 for all  
2 service transfers.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** This act expires July 1, 2007.

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