
HOUSE BILL 1541

State of Washington

61st Legislature

2009 Regular Session

By Representatives Seaquist, Conway, Crouse, and Simpson; by request of Select Committee on Pension Policy

Read first time 01/23/09. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to granting half-time service credit for half-time
2 educational employment prior to January 1, 1987, in plans 2 and 3 of
3 the school employees' retirement system and the public employees'
4 retirement system; adding a new section to chapter 41.35 RCW; and
5 adding a new section to chapter 41.40 RCW.

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

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 41.35 RCW
8 under the subchapter heading "provisions applicable to plan 2 and plan
9 3" to read as follows:

10 (1) By no later than December 31, 2010, the department shall
11 recalculate service credit for periods of qualifying prior service by
12 an eligible member, as provided for in this section.

13 (2) An eligible member is a member who is active in the retirement
14 system and who earns service credit after the effective date of this
15 section and before September 1, 2010.

16 (3) A qualifying period of prior service is a school year prior to
17 January 1, 1987, in which the member:

18 (a) Was employed in an eligible position by a school district or

1 districts, educational service district, the state school for the deaf,
2 the state school for the blind, an institution of higher education, or
3 a community college;

4 (b) Earned earnable compensation for at least six hundred thirty
5 hours as determined by the department;

6 (c) Received less than six months of service credit; and

7 (d) Has not withdrawn service credit for the school year or has
8 restored any withdrawn service credit for the school year.

9 (4) The department shall recalculate service credit for qualifying
10 periods of prior service for an eligible member as follows:

11 (a) The member shall receive one-half service credit month for each
12 month of the period from September through August of the following year
13 if he or she earned earnable compensation during that period for at
14 least six hundred thirty hours as determined by the department, and was
15 employed nine months of that period; and

16 (b) A member's service credit shall not be reduced under this
17 section for a qualifying period of prior service.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 41.40 RCW
19 under the subchapter heading "provisions applicable to plan 2 and plan
20 3" to read as follows:

21 (1) By no later than December 31, 2010, the department shall
22 recalculate service credit for periods of qualifying prior service by
23 an eligible member, as provided for in this section.

24 (2) An eligible member is a member of plan 2 or 3 who is active in
25 the retirement system and who earns service credit after the effective
26 date of this section and before September 1, 2010.

27 (3) A qualifying period of prior service is a school year prior to
28 January 1, 1987, in which the member:

29 (a) Was employed in an eligible position by a school district or
30 districts, educational service district, the state school for the deaf,
31 the state school for the blind, an institution of higher education, or
32 a community college;

33 (b) Earned earnable compensation for at least six hundred thirty
34 hours as determined by the department;

35 (c) Received less than six months of service credit; and

36 (d) Has not withdrawn service credit for the school year or has
37 restored any withdrawn service credit for the school year.

1 (4) The department shall recalculate service credit for qualifying
2 periods of prior service for an eligible member as follows:

3 (a) The member shall receive one-half service credit month for each
4 month of the period from September through August of the following year
5 if he or she earned earnable compensation during that period for at
6 least six hundred thirty hours as determined by the department, and was
7 employed nine months of that period; and

8 (b) A member's service credit shall not be reduced under this
9 section for a qualifying period of prior service.

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