

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 61

2016 Regular Session

Hoffmann

RETIREMENT/TEACHERS: Provides relative to the reemployment of retired school psychologists in positions covered by the Teachers' Retirement System of La.

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Changes the mandatory benefit suspension period immediately following retirement from present law 12 months to 36 months except for retirees filling a critical shortage position or one who returned to work under the provisions of present law prior to May 15, 2016.
2. Makes technical changes.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law generally provides that a retiree of the Teachers' Retirement System of La. (TRSL) may not continue to receive his benefit check while reemployed in a position covered by the system. Further provides exceptions to present law.

Present law provides that in certain circumstances a retiree who has been retired at least 12 months may return to work in a "critical shortage position" (defined in present law) without reduction of benefits. Such circumstances include returning as a certified classroom teacher, as a certified speech therapist, speech pathologist, audiologist, educational diagnostician, school social worker, or school counselor. Proposed law retains present law and adds school psychologists to the list of certified professionals who may return to work in a critical shortage position without reduction of benefits.

Present law provides procedures for certifying that a critical shortage exists for purposes of present law. Requires advertisement in the official journal of the employer's governing authority and posting of job vacancies at certain post-secondary institutions. The authority to certify a vacancy as a critical shortage position does not exist if three or more non-retirees apply for the position. Proposed law retains present law and requires such certification procedures before a retiree may be reemployed as a school psychologist pursuant to proposed law.

Present law requires any teacher who returns to active service covered by the provisions of present law within the 12-month period immediately following the effective date of retirement shall have his retirement benefit suspended for the duration of active service or, if earlier, the lapse of the 12 months. Proposed law retains present law for any teacher who returns to active service in a critical shortage position or who returned to work under the provisions of present law on or before May 15, 2016. For all others, increases the mandatory suspension period from 12 months to 36 months.

Effective July 1, 2016.

(Amends R.S. 11:710(A)(3) and (4)(b), (B)(1)(a) and (d) and (F); Adds R.S. 11:107(B)(1)(e) and (f))