
DIGEST

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HB 14 Reengrossed

2018 Regular Session

Smith

Abstract: Authorizes retirees of the Teachers' Retirement System of La. (TRSL) to return to work without benefit suspension five years after retirement and for members who have been retired for less than five years, adds pre-kindergarten teachers and teachers of the deaf or hard of hearing to the list of critical shortage positions that may be filled without benefit suspension and adds clerical personnel to the list of positions that may be filled subject to a 25% earnings limitation.

Present law generally provides that a retiree of TRSL may not return to work in a position covered by the system and continue to receive his benefit check while reemployed. Further provides exceptions to present law.

Present law provides that after a 12-month suspension period, there shall be no further suspension of benefits for a member who returns to work if the member retired on or before June 30, 2010 or holds an advanced degree in speech therapy, speech pathology, or audiology, regardless of retirement date. Proposed law retains present law relative to speech therapists, speech pathologists, and audiologists and further provides that there shall be no suspension of benefits for *any* member who has been retired for at least five years.

Present law provides procedures for establishing 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. Further limits authority to rehire a retiree for the critical shortage position if more than three nonretirees apply for the position. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law authorizes a retiree to return to work as a substitute classroom teacher, an adjunct professor, an instructor in an adult literacy program, or a school nurse and to continue to receive his benefit check; however, the allowable employment earnings of such retiree are capped at 25% of his benefit amount. Proposed law retains present law and adds clerical office personnel to the list of positions that a retiree may return to subject to a 25% earnings limitation.

Present law provides that in certain circumstances a retiree may return to work in a critical shortage position (defined in present law) without reduction of benefits. Such positions include returning as a certified classroom teacher, as a certified speech therapist, speech pathologist, audiologist, educational diagnostician, school social worker, school counselor, or school psychologist. Proposed law adds pre-kindergarten teacher and interpreter, educational transliterator, or educator of the deaf or hard of hearing to the list of certified professionals who may return to work in a critical shortage

position without reduction of benefits.

Effective July 1, 2018.

(Amends R.S. 11:710(A)(3), (4), and (6)(a) and (F)(3); Adds R.S. 11:710(A)(5)(e))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Retirement to the original bill:

1. Allow all retirees to return to work without earning limitation five years after retirement.
2. Add pre-kindergarten teachers to list of critical shortage positions, eligible for reemployment without earnings limitation.
3. Add clerical office personnel to list of positions eligible for reemployment with 25% earning limitation.