

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 201 (HB 20)

2022 Regular Session

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Existing law provides that the retirement benefit of a retired member of the District Attorneys' Retirement System (DARS) who is reemployed by a district attorney is suspended during reemployment. Provides that the retiree becomes an active contributing member of the system and accrues a supplemental retirement benefit.

Existing law exempts certain retirees from the required suspension of benefits. New law modifies the criteria a retiree must meet to be eligible for the exemption.

Prior law limited the exemption to district attorneys and assistant district attorneys. New law provides that the exemption applies to any reemployed retiree of the system who meets the other criteria.

Existing law provides that the exemption applies to a retiree who retired in accordance with one of the following:

- (1) He attained the age of 55 with 24 years of service credit.
- (2) He completed 30 years of creditable service.

New law provides that the exemption applies only if the retiree has been retired for at least 60 days.

Existing law provides that the exemption applies only to retirees whose salary is less than a specified amount; the specified amount is tied to the annual salary established by existing law for assistant district attorneys. As of the effective date of new law, that amount is \$50,000.

Prior law provided that the salary established by existing law was the maximum salary for any reemployed retiree to qualify for the exemption. New law provides that this is the maximum salary for those who are at least the age set by existing federal law for a working retirement (currently 59 and ½). For a retiree younger than that age, new law provides that the maximum salary to qualify for the exemption is one-half of his final annual salary at the time of his retirement or the annual salary provided for by existing law, whichever is less.

Existing law provides for governance of DARS by a nine-member board of trustees composed of:

- (1) A member of the House Committee on Retirement appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, or the member's designee
- (2) The chairman of the Senate Committee on Retirement, or his designee
- (3) Six active and contributing members of the system with at least 10 years of creditable service, at least one of whom is an assistant district attorney, elected by the members of DARS.
- (4) One retired member of the system elected by the retired members of DARS.

New law increases the number of elected retired members to two and increases total board membership to 10. Provides that one of the retired members shall be a person who served as a district attorney and one a person who served as an assistant district attorney.

Existing law provides for a per diem for DARS board members for attendance at board meetings. Prior law set the per diem amount at \$50. New law increases it to \$75.

Effective June 30, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 11:1631(F)(2) and 1651(B)(intro. para.) and (3) and (D))