

2020 -- H 7150

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

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A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM-
CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS

Introduced By: Representatives Jacquard, Noret, Shekarchi, Casey, and Millea

Date Introduced: January 16, 2020

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 36-10-36 of the General Laws in Chapter 36-10 entitled
2 "Retirement System - Contributions and Benefits" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **36-10-36. Post-retirement employment.**

4 (a) On and after July 7, 1994, no member who has retired under the provisions of titles
5 16, 36, or 45 may be employed or reemployed by any state agency or department unless any and
6 all retirement benefits to which he or she may be entitled by virtue of the provisions of titles 16,
7 36, or 45 are suspended for the duration of any employment or reemployment. No additional
8 service credits shall be granted for any post-retirement employment or reemployment and no
9 deductions shall be taken from an individual's salary for retirement contribution. Notice of any
10 such post-retirement employment or reemployment shall be sent monthly to the retirement board
11 by the employing agency or department and by the retired member.

12 (b) Any member who has retired under the provisions of titles 16, 36, or 45 may be
13 employed or reemployed by any municipality within the state that has accepted the provisions of
14 chapter 21 of title 45 and participates in the municipal employees' retirement system for a period
15 of not more than seventy-five (75) working days or one hundred fifty (150) half days with half-
16 day pay in any one calendar year without any forfeiture or reduction of any retirement benefits
17 and allowances the member is receiving, or may receive, as a retired member. Pension payments
18 shall be suspended whenever this period is exceeded. No additional contributions shall be taken,

1 and no additional service credits shall be granted, for this service. Notice of this employment or
2 reemployment shall be sent monthly to the retirement board by the employer and by the retired
3 member.

4 (c) Any member who has retired under the provisions of title 16, 36, or 45 may be
5 employed or reemployed by any municipality within the state that has not accepted the provisions
6 of chapter 21 of title 45 and that does not participate in the municipal employees' retirement
7 system.

8 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section:

9 (1) Any retired member of the system shall be permitted to serve as an elected mayor, the
10 town administrator, the city administrator, the town manager, the city manager, the chief
11 administrative officer, or the chief executive officer of any city or town, city or town council
12 member, school committee member, or unpaid member of any part-time state board or
13 commission or member of any part-time municipal board or commission, and shall continue to be
14 eligible for, and receive, the retirement allowance for service other than that as a mayor,
15 administrator, council member, school committee member, or member of any state board or
16 commission or member of any part-time municipal board or commission; provided, however, that
17 no additional service credits shall be granted for any service under this subsection;

18 (2) Any retired member, who retired from service at any state college, university, state
19 school, or who retired from service as a teacher under the provisions of title 16, or who retired
20 from service under title 36 or title 45, may be employed or reemployed, on a part-time basis, by
21 any state college, university, or state school for the purpose of providing classroom instruction,
22 academic advising of students, and/or coaching. Compensation shall be provided at a level not to
23 exceed the salary provided to other faculty members employed under a collective bargaining
24 agreement at the institution. In no event shall "part-time" mean gross pay of more than eighteen
25 thousand dollars (\$18,000) in any one calendar year. Any retired member who provides such
26 instruction or service shall do so without forfeiture or reduction of any retirement benefit or
27 allowance; provided, however, that no additional service credits shall be granted for any service
28 under this subsection;

29 (3) Any retired member who retired from service as a teacher under the provisions of title
30 16, or as a state employee who, while an active state employee, was certified to teach driver
31 education by the department of elementary and secondary education or by the board of governors
32 for higher education, may be employed or reemployed, on a part-time basis, by the department of
33 elementary and secondary education or by the board of governors of higher education for the
34 purpose of providing classroom instruction in driver education courses in accordance with § 31-

1 10-19 and/or motorcycle driver education courses in accordance with § 31-10.1-1.1. In no event
2 shall "part-time" mean gross pay of more than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) in any one
3 calendar year. Any retired teacher who provides that instruction shall do so without forfeiture or
4 reduction of any retirement benefit or allowance the retired teacher is receiving as a retired
5 teacher; provided, however, that no additional service credits shall be granted for any service
6 under this subsection;

7 (4) Any retired member who retired from service as a registered nurse may be employed
8 or reemployed, on a per-diem basis, for the purpose of providing professional nursing care and/or
9 services at a state-operated facility in Rhode Island, including employment as a faculty member
10 of a nursing program at a state-operated college or university. In no event shall "part-time" mean
11 gross pay of more than a period of seventy-five (75) working days or one hundred fifty (150) half
12 days with half pay in any one calendar year. Any retired nurse who provides such care and/or
13 services shall do so without forfeiture or reduction of any retirement benefit or allowance the
14 retired nurse is receiving as a retired nurse; provided, however, that no additional service credits
15 shall be granted for any service under this subsection. Pension payments shall be suspended
16 whenever this period is exceeded. No additional contributions shall be taken and no additional
17 service credits shall be granted for this service. Notice of this employment or reemployment shall
18 be sent monthly to the retirement board by the employer and by the retired member;

19 (5) Any retired member who, at the time of passage of this section, serves as a general
20 magistrate within the family court and thereafter retires from judicial service, may be employed
21 or reemployed by the family court to perform such services as a general magistrate of the family
22 court as the chief judge of the family court shall prescribe without any forfeiture or reduction of
23 any retirement benefits and allowances that he or she is receiving or may receive. For any such
24 services or assignments performed after retirement, the general magistrate shall receive no
25 compensation whatsoever, either monetary or in kind. No additional contributions shall be taken
26 and no additional service credits shall be granted for this service; and

27 (6) Any retired member of the system shall be permitted to serve as a municipal
28 employee without any forfeiture or reduction of any retirement benefits and allowances that he or
29 she is receiving or may receive; provided, that said member shall be appointed by and serves at
30 the pleasure of the highest elected chief executive officer, as defined in § 45-9-2, in any city or
31 town subject to the provisions of chapter 9 of title 45 entitled "Budget Commissions" relating to
32 the appointment of a fiscal overseer, budget commission, receiver, and/or financial advisor.
33 Provided further, that no additional service credits shall be granted for any service under this
34 subsection.

1 (7) Any retired police officer of any police force may work for the same police force
2 from which said police officer has retired for an unlimited amount of days only in the capacity as
3 a specific traffic detail officer and only if the specific traffic detail is not covered by current full-
4 time officers.

5 SECTION 2. Section 45-21-54 of the General Laws in Chapter 45-21 entitled
6 "Retirement of Municipal Employees" is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 **45-21-54. Reemployment of retired members.**

8 (a) Any retired member of the system is permitted to reenter the service of the system for
9 not more than seventy-five (75) working days in a calendar year without interruption of pension
10 benefits. Pension payments, however, are suspended when that period is exceeded. If the retired
11 member continues in service beyond the seventy-five (75) day period (with his annuity
12 temporarily suspended) the member is not eligible for pension credit for the additional service,
13 nor is the member required to make pension contributions for this service; provided, that any
14 retired member of the system is permitted to serve as an elected city or town council member or
15 school committee member and continues to be eligible for and receive the retirement allowance
16 for service other than that as a council member or school committee member.

17 (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, any retired police officer of any police
18 force may work for the same police force from which said police officer has retired for an
19 unlimited amount of days with no interruption of pension benefits, only in the capacity as a
20 specific traffic detail officer and only if the specific detail is not covered by current full-time
21 officers.

22 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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RELATING TO PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES -- RETIREMENT SYSTEM-
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1 This act would allow retired police officers to work specifically for traffic details, only
2 where the traffic detail is not covered by current police officers, for an unlimited amount of days
3 with no interruption of pension benefits.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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