2017 -- H 5494

LC001494

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

AN ACT

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

Introduced By: Representatives Keable, Johnston, Casey, Slater, and Amore

<u>Date Introduced:</u> February 15, 2017

Referred To: House Finance

(by request)

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It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

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

36-10-36. Post retirement employment.

(a) On and after July 7, 1994 July 1, 2017, no any member who has retired under the provisions of titles 16, 36, or 45 may be employed or reemployed by any state or municipal agency or department unless any and all without forfeiting retirement benefits to which he or she may be entitled by virtue of the provisions of titles 16, 36, or 45 are suspended for the duration of any employment or reemployment. No additional service credits shall be granted for any post-retirement employment or reemployment and no deductions shall be taken from an individual's salary for retirement contribution. Notice of any such post-retirement employment or reemployment shall be sent monthly to the retirement board by the employing agency or department and by the retired member.

(b) Any member who has retired under the provisions of titles 16, 36, or 45 may be employed or reemployed by any municipality within the state that has accepted the provisions of chapter 21 of title 45 and participates in the municipal employees' retirement system for a period of not more than seventy five (75) working days or one hundred fifty (150) half days with half-day pay in any one calendar year without any forfeiture or reduction of any retirement benefits and allowances the member is receiving, or may receive, as a retired member. Pension payments

- shall be suspended whenever this period is exceeded. No additional contributions shall be taken, and no additional service credits shall be granted, for this service. Notice of this employment or re-employment shall be sent monthly to the retirement board by the employer and by the retired member.
- (c) Any member who has retired under the provisions of title 16, 36, or 45 may be employed or re-employed by any municipality within the state that has not accepted the provisions of chapter 21 of title 45 and that does not participate in the municipal employees' retirement system.
 - (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section:

- (1) Any retired member of the system shall be permitted to serve as an elected mayor, the town administrator, the city administrator, the town manager, the city manager, the chief administrative officer, or the chief executive officer of any city or town, city or town council member, school committee member, or unpaid member of any part time state board or commission or member of any part time municipal board or commission, and shall continue to be eligible for, and receive, the retirement allowance for service other than that as a mayor, administrator, council member, school committee member, or member of any state board or commission or member of any part time municipal board or commission; provided, however, that no additional service credits shall be granted for any service under this subsection;
- (2) Any retired member, who retired from service at any state college, university, state school, or who retired from service as a teacher under the provisions of title 16, or who retired from service under title 36 or title 45, may be employed or reemployed, on a part time basis, by any state college, university, or state school for the purpose of providing classroom instruction, academic advising of students, and/or coaching. Compensation shall be provided at a level not to exceed the salary provided to other faculty members employed under a collective bargaining agreement at the institution. In no event shall "part time" mean gross pay of more than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) in any one calendar year. Any retired member who provides such instruction or service shall do so without forfeiture or reduction of any retirement benefit or allowance; provided, however, that no additional service credits shall be granted for any service under this subsection;
- (3) Any retired member who retired from service as a teacher under the provisions of title 16, or as a state employee who, while an active state employee, was certified to teach driver education by the department of elementary and secondary education or by the board of governors for higher education, may be employed or reemployed, on a part time basis, by the department of elementary and secondary education or by the board of governors of higher education for the

purpose of providing classroom instruction in driver education courses in accordance with § 31-10-19 and/or motorcycle driver education courses in accordance with § 31-10-11-11. In no event shall "part time" mean gross pay of more than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) in any one calendar year. Any retired teacher who provides that instruction shall do so without forfeiture or reduction of any retirement benefit or allowance the retired teacher is receiving as a retired teacher; provided, however, that no additional service credits shall be granted for any service under this subsection:

(4) Any retired member who retired from service as a registered nurse may be employed or reemployed, on a per-diem basis, for the purpose of providing professional nursing care and/or services at a state operated facility in Rhode Island. In no event shall "part-time" mean gross pay of more than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) in any one calendar year. Any retired nurse who provides such care and/or services shall do so without forfeiture or reduction of any retirement benefit or allowance the retired nurse is receiving as a retired nurse; provided, however, that no additional service credits shall be granted for any service under this subsection; and

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

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

31 SECTION 2. 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 - CONTRIBUTIONS AND BENEFITS

This act would remove some of the restrictions on post-retirement re-employment of public employees.

This act would take effect upon passage.

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