LC005603

2022 -- H 8049

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

AN ACT

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

Introduced By: Representatives McEntee, Caldwell, and Craven

Date Introduced: March 25, 2022

Referred To: House Finance

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 "Retirement

2 System - Contributions and Benefits" is hereby amended to read as follows:

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36-10-36. Post-retirement employment.

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

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

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(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section:

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

17 (2) Any retired member, who retired from service at any state college, university, state 18 school, or who retired from service as a teacher under the provisions of title 16, or who retired from 19 service under title 36 or title 45, may be employed or reemployed, on a part-time basis, by any state 20 college, university, or state school for the purpose of providing classroom instruction, academic 21 advising of students, and/or coaching. Compensation shall be provided at a level not to exceed the 22 salary provided to other faculty members employed under a collective bargaining agreement at the 23 institution. In no event shall "part-time" mean gross pay of more than eighteen thousand dollars 24 (\$18,000) twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) in any one calendar year. Any retired member 25 who provides such instruction or service shall do so without forfeiture or reduction of any 26 retirement benefit or allowance; provided, however, that no additional service credits shall be 27 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 § 31-10.1-1.1. In no event 1 shall "part-time" mean gross pay of more than fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000) in any one 2 calendar year. Any retired teacher who provides that instruction shall do so without forfeiture or 3 reduction of any retirement benefit or allowance the retired teacher is receiving as a retired teacher; 4 provided, however, that no additional service credits shall be granted for any service under this 5 subsection;

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

18 (5) Any retired member who, at the time of passage of this section, serves as a general 19 magistrate within the family court and thereafter retires from judicial service, may be employed or 20 reemployed by the family court to perform such services as a general magistrate of the family court 21 as the chief judge of the family court shall prescribe without any forfeiture or reduction of any 22 retirement benefits and allowances that he or she is receiving or may receive. For any such services 23 or assignments performed after retirement, the general magistrate shall receive no compensation 24 whatsoever, either monetary or in kind. No additional contributions shall be taken and no additional 25 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. LC005603

EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

AN ACT

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

1 This act would increase the maximum post retirement employment earnings from eighteen

2 thousand dollars (\$18,000) to twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) a year for certain retired

- 3 educators.
- 4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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