

## 2018 Regular Session

The 2018 Regular Legislative Session ended on March 29, 2018. The Legislature fully funded both the ERS and TRS in the General Fund and Education Trust Fund budgets. The Legislature also funded PEEHIP at the requested rate of \$800 per employee, per month in the Education Trust Fund budget.

It was a relatively quiet session for the RSA. No major legislation was introduced that would negatively impact the RSA and its members.

Three bills were enacted which dealt with retiree bonuses for ERS and TRS retirees:

- Act 2018-355 (SB215) and Act 2018-493 (SB21), both sponsored by Sen. Dial, provide for one-time bonuses to ERS state retirees and TRS retirees, respectively, in the amount of \$1 per month of service. These bonuses will be paid out in June to members who retired prior to May 2018 and are receiving a benefit as of April 30, 2018. The ERS retiree bonus will be funded in the fiscal year 2020 employer contribution rate. The TRS retiree bonus will be funded by a monetary transfer from PEEHIP to the TRS, as directed in the Education Trust Fund budget.
- Act 2018-563 (HB249), by Rep. McMillan, extends the time for local units to choose to provide the retiree bonus allowed for by Act 2017-367.

Additionally, Act 2018-404 (SB23), by Sen. Coleman-Madison, allows for the purchase of service credit for employment after October 1, 2000, with an agency eligible for participation in the ERS. The previous law only allowed for the purchase of such credit for employment before October 1, 2000.

Finally, three local bills were enacted:

- Act 2018-559 (HB471), by Rep. Knight, authorizes the city of Montgomery and the Montgomery Airport Authority to join the ERS upon approval by the ERS Board of Control.
- Act 2018-388 (HB121), by Rep. Lawrence, proposes a constitutional amendment to allow Montgomery County Commissioners to participate in the ERS.
- Act 2018-37 (HB168), by Rep. Hurst, proposes a constitutional amendment to allow the Clay County sheriff to participate in the ERS.

Bill/Sponsor	Companion	Summary	Status
<b>HB121 Lawrence</b>		Proposes a constitutional amendment to allow Montgomery County Commission members to participate in ERS.	Enacted - Act 2018-388.
<b>HB168 Hurst</b>		Proposes a constitutional amendment to allow the Clay County sheriff to participate in ERS.	Enacted - Act 2018-37.
<b>HB175 Poole</b>	SB165 Orr	Education Trust Fund Budget; fully funds TRS and PEEHIP.	Enacted - Act 2018-481.
<b>HB249 McMillan</b>		Extends time for local units to provide retiree bonus under Act 2017-367.	Enacted - Act 2018-563.
<b>HB471 Knight</b>		Authorizes the City of Montgomery and Montgomery Airport Authority to join ERS.	Enacted - Act 2018-559.
<b>SB21 Dial</b>		Provides a one-time \$400 bonus to TRS retirees. Substituted by the Senate to provide a one-time bonus to TRS retirees in the amount of \$1 per month of service.	Enacted - Act 2018-493.
<b>SB23 Coleman- Madison</b>		Allows purchase of service credit for employment with an agency eligible for participation in ERS after October 1, 2000.	Enacted - Act 2018-404.
<b>SB178 Pittman</b>	HB156 Clouse	General Fund Budget; House committee substitute fully funds ERS.	Enacted - Act 2018-354.
<b>SB215 Dial</b>	HB440 Rich	Provides a one-time \$400 bonus to ERS retirees. Substituted by the Senate to provide a one-time bonus to ERS retirees in the amount of \$1 per month of service.	Enacted - Act 2018-355.