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1 070SWW-2



- 2 By Representative Lovvorn
- 3 RFD: Ways and Means General Fund
- 4 First Read: 07-Mar-23
- 5 PFD: 06-Mar-23
- 6 2023 Regular Session



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1	Enrolled, An Act,
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4	Relating to the Retirement Systems of Alabama; to amend
5	Section 36-27-59, Code of Alabama 1975, to remove the time
6	limit for purchasing hazardous duty time for prior eligible
7	service for certain firefighters, law enforcement officers,
8	and correctional officers covered under the Employees'
9	Retirement System or the Teachers' Retirement System as Tier I
10	plan members.
11	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
12	Section 1. Section 36-27-59 of the Code of Alabama
13	1975, is amended to read as follows:
14	"\$36-27-59
15	(a) When used in this section, the following terms
16	shall have the following meanings, unless the context clearly
17	indicates otherwise:
18	(1) CORRECTIONAL OFFICER. A full-time correctional
19	officer who is certified as a correctional officer by the
20	Alabama Peace Officers' Standards and Training Commission.
21	(2) FIREFIGHTER. A full-time firefighter employed with
22	the State of Alabama, a municipal fire department, or a fire
23	district who has a level one minimum standard certification by
24	the Firefighters Personnel Standards and Education Commission,
25	or a firefighter employed by the Alabama Forestry Commission
26	who has been certified by the State Forester as having met the
27	wild land firefighter training standard of the National
28	Wildfire Coordinating Group.

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29 (3) LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER. A full-time law 30 enforcement officer, not covered as a state policeman, 31 employed with any state agency, department, board, commission, 32 or institution or a full-time law enforcement officer employed 33 by a local unit of the Employees' Retirement System under 34 Section 36-27-6 who is certified as a law enforcement officer 35 by the Alabama Peace Officers' Standards and Training 36 Commission.

37 (b)(1) Any firefighter, law enforcement officer, or correctional officer covered under the Employees' Retirement 38 39 System or the Teachers' Retirement System as a Tier I plan member, upon attainment of the requisite years of creditable 40 41 service or who otherwise qualifies for service or disability 42 retirement, shall be awarded one year of hazardous duty time 43 for every five years of service as a firefighter, a law 44 enforcement officer, or a correctional officer provided that the person has made the additional contribution provided in 45 46 subdivision (2) or paid the additional contribution required 47 in subsection (c) for each year of service used in determining 48 hazardous duty time for the person. Proportional credit shall 49 be awarded for any period of service less than five years.

50 (2) Effective January 1, 2001, and each pay period 51 thereafter, each active employee who is a firefighter, law 52 enforcement officer, or correctional officer, as defined in 53 subsection (a), shall contribute to the Teachers' or 54 Employees' Retirement System of Alabama six percent of his or 55 her earnable compensation. For all pay dates beginning on or 56 after October 1, 2011, each active employee who is a

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firefighter, law enforcement officer, or correctional officer, 57 as defined in subsection (a), except those employees 58 participating pursuant to Section 36-27-6, shall contribute to 59 the Teachers' or Employees' Retirement System of Alabama eight 60 61 and one-quarter percent (8.25%) of his or her earnable 62 compensation. For all pay dates beginning on or after October 63 1, 2012, each active employee who is a Tier I plan member and 64 who is a firefighter, law enforcement officer, or correctional 65 officer, as defined in subsection (a), except those employees 66 participating pursuant to Section 36-27-6, shall contribute to 67 the Teachers' or Employees' Retirement System of Alabama eight and one-half percent (8.5%) of his or her earnable 68 69 compensation. Any employer participating under Section 70 36-27-6, by adoption of a resolution, may elect for the 71 increases in employee contributions provided by Act 2011-676 72 to be withheld from the earnable compensation of employees of 73 the employer.

74 (c) Any member of the Employees' Retirement System or 75 the Teachers' Retirement System eligible under subsection (b) 76 may receive credit for his or her eligible prior service 77 provided the member pays to the Secretary-Treasurer of the 78 Employees' Retirement System or the Secretary-Treasurer of the 79 Teachers' Retirement System one percent of his or her current 80 annual earnable compensation or previous year's annual 81 earnable compensation, whichever is higher, for each year of 82 claimed credit within two years of January 1, 2001, except that any firefighter employed by the Alabama Forestry 83 84 Commission shall make such payment within two years of

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85 December 28, 2001. Any-member participating in the Employees' Retirement System under Section 36-27-6, who has eligible 86 87 prior service under this section and who also had no prior 88 eligibility to purchase prior service credit under this 89 subsection, may purchase prior service credit under this 90 section at the same rate provided in subsection (b) within one 91 year of the effective date of his or her enrollment with the 92 Employees' Retirement-System-or-within-one-year-of-August-1; 93 2004. The member may purchase his or her claimed credit in 94 increments of five years, unless the total service credit is 95 less than five years, in which case the service shall be 96 purchased in its entirety. The member shall provide 97 certification from each employing agency, on forms prescribed by the Teachers' or Employees' Retirement System, of each year 98 99 of claimed service, as a prerequisite to payment under this 100 section.

101 (d) The provisions of this section shall not apply to 102 any Tier II plan member."

103 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the first 104 day of the third month following its passage and approval by 105 the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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114 115		President and Presiding Officer of the Senate	
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117		House of Representatives	
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119		I hereby certify that the within Act originated .	in and
120	was pas	ssed by the House 04-Apr-23.	
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122		John Treadwell	
123 124		Clerk	
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131	Senate	25-Apr-23 Passed	

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Alabama Secretary Of State Act Num....: 2023-101 Bill Num...: H-66

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