July 14, 2023

Good afternoon,

Effective August 1, 2023, ACT #2023-334 temporarily permits certain retired individuals, performing duties as school resource officers, to serve without suspension of his or her retirement benefits. No individual may be employed pursuant to this act after December 31, 2026.

Any individual who is retired under the Employees' Retirement System, has the applicable Alabama Peace Officers' Standards and Training certification (APOST), and was classified as a law enforcement officer prior to retirement, may perform duties as a school resource officer (SRO) without suspension of his or her retirement benefits provided that the compensation earned does not exceed \$52,000 per calendar year.

When a TRS or ERS agency hires a retired ERS employee to hold the position of an SRO, it will be the responsibility of the hiring agency to confirm that said employee is APOST certified, and that the employee performed duties as a law enforcement officer before retirement. The employee did not have to retire in an FLC capacity but had to have a prior position that qualified them as a law enforcement officer.

The Retirement Systems of Alabama has created a new Contribution Group for this type of retiree who is being hired. The employee should be enrolled with the Contribution Group "ERS Retiree – School Resource Officer, Position Code 029" and with the Position Status of "Seasonal/Irregular." The agency that is enrolling said employee will have to ensure that they are enrolling them with this new contribution group so that they are subject to the correct post-retirement employment earnings limitation.

Sincerely,

The Retirement Systems of Alabama

Employer File Format – August 1, 2023